

A TRUE
NARRATIVE
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS,
WITH
GENERAL REMARKS
On the EVIDENCE given upon the memorable
TRIALS
OF
MARY SQUIRES,
AND
ELIZABETH CANNING;

The latter of which received Sentence of TRANSPORTATION
for Perjury, on *Thursday May 30*, with a List of the Gen-
tlemen for and against the Mitigation of the Sentence.

Fully explaining

The many Absurdities, Inconsistencies, and Contra-
dictions in the Depositions of the Witnesses.

THE

Acquittal of the ABBOTSBURY MEN from the Charge of
Perjury; with Counsellor DAVY's Speech on that Occasion.

THE

Whole Course of this mysterious Affair traced from
its Original, and set in a true Light.

Impartially considered by a Lover of TRUTH.

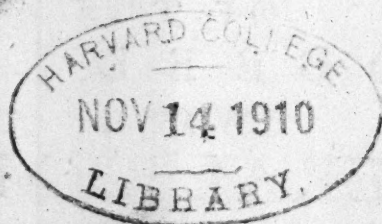
To which is prefixed,

The Effigies of MARY SQUIRES, and
ELIZABETH CANNING.

L O N D O N:

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A TRUE
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WITH
REMARKS
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Evidence given upon the memorable
TRIALS of MARY SQUIRES and
ELIZABETH CANNING.



HOEVER seriously and impartially considers the long Contest between *Canning* and the *Gipsy*, and the clear and determinate Opinions of Lawyers, Judges and Juries upon the Case, must be astonished when he sees such a Number of People still unconvinced. To what can this unaccountable Disposition be owing, but to a perverse Obstinacy in some Minds, who being once prejudiced in Favour of an Opinion, imagine it would shew a Weakness in their Understanding to relinquish or give it up? Whereas the Mind that is most open to Conviction, candidly weighs every Argument that arises from a fair State of the Case between the contending Parties, and is then most likely to be the best informed of the Truth; a Man sincerely desirous of searching the Truth, will suspend his Judgment till he has heard the full Evidence on both Sides, and then determine as Reason and Justice shall direct him. 'Tis a cool and dispassionate Examination of Facts that convinces the Understanding; Violence, Clamour and Outrage, serve only to blacken the Cause, or at least, render it suspicious. Now, in order to form a right Judgment of this intricate Affair, which has puzzled and bewildered the Intellects of Multitudes of his Majesty's good Subjects, it is necessary to take a Review of all the Proceedings that have been had, for and
B
against

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against this poor, simple Girl, and this cunning old Gipsey. To which Purpose, I shall give a true and faithful Summary of the several Trials, and the most material Occurrences that have happened, in Consequence of the Indictments found against all and every the Persons that have been prosecuted, as well for the supposed Robbery as for the Perjuries ensuing thereupon, together with such pertinent Remarks as the Nature of the Evidence shall suggest. The first Trial was that of the Gipsey and *Wells*, of which the following is an exact Account.

MARY SQUIRES, and *Susannah Wells*, were indicted; the First, for that she, on the 2d of *January*, 1753, in the House of *Susannah Wells*, Widow, on *Elizabeth Canning*, Spinster, did make an Assault, putting her in corporal Fear and Danger of her Life, one Pair of Stays, Value 10s. from her Person did steal, take, and carry away.

AND the Latter, for that she well knowing that the said *Mary Squires* to have committed the Felony aforesaid, the said *Mary* did then and there feloniously receive, harbour, comfort, conceal and maintain against his Majesty's Peace, and the Form of the Statute.

ELIZABETH CANNING, the Prosecutrix, deposed, that on the 1st of *January*, she had been to see her Uncle and Aunt at *Saltpetre Bank*. That she set out from Home about 11 in the Forenoon, and stayed with them till about nine at Night, and that they came with her as far as *Aldgate* where they parted. She then went down *Houndsditch* and over *Moorfields* by *Bedlam Wall*, where two lusty Men, both in great Coats, laid hold of her, one on each Side, and without speaking a Word, took half a Guinea in a little Box, and three Shillings that were loose, out of her Pocket. The Man on her right Hand took her Gown, Apron, and Hat, folded them up, and put 'em in his great Coat Pocket. Upon which she screaming out, he put a Handkerchief, or some such Thing, to her Mouth. They then tied her Hands behind her, and one of them gave her a Blow on the Temples, saying, *D—n you for a Bitch, we'll do for you by and by*. The Blow stunn'd her and threw her into a Convulsion Fit, to which she had been subject for four Years. When she recovered from her Fit, she found herself by a large Road, where was Water, with the two Men that had robb'd her, and in about half an
Hour

Hour afterwards they brought her to *Wells's* House, which she imagines was about four o'Clock in the Morning. They lugg'd her along, and said, *You Bitch why don't you walk faster?* One had hold on the right Arm and the other on her left, and so pulled her along. While her Fit lasted, she believed they dragg'd her along by her Petticoats they were so dirty.

ON her coming to *Wells's* House she saw the Gipsy Woman *Squires* sitting in a Chair, and two young Women standing against the Dresser, *Virtue Hall*, the Evidence, was one of them, but *Wells* was not there. As soon as she was brought in, *Mary Squires* took her by the Hand, and asked her, *If she chose to go their Way?* adding, *if she would, she should have fine Cloaths.* To which she replied, *No*; but the Gipsy did not explain what she meant by *going their Way*. *Squires* then went and took a Knife out of a Dresser Drawer, cut the Lace of her Stays, and took them from her; and *Canning* seeing her take the Knife thought she was going to cut her Throat. *Squires* looking at her Petticoat, said *You Bitch you may keep that, it is not worth much*, and gave her a Slap on the Face. After that she pushed her out of the Kitchen up Stairs into a Hayloft, and shut to the Door as soon as she was up, telling her at the same Time, That if ever she heard her stir or move, or any Thing, she would cut her Throat.

WHEN Day-light appeared, and she could see about the Room, she observed a Fire-place and a Grate in it, but no Bed nor Bedstead, nor any Thing to lie upon but Hay; there was likewise a black Pitcher not quite full of Water, and about four and twenty Pieces of Bread, the Quantity of about a Quartern Loaf; besides which she had in her Pocket a Penny Minc'd-pie, which she had bought that Day to carry home to her Brother. In which Room she continued four Weeks all but a few Hours; during which Time she saw Nobody, except on the *Wednesday* before she came away, she observ'd Somebody look through the Crack of the Door, but knew not who it was. She made no Attempt during her Confinement to make her Escape, neither had she any Thing to subsist upon all that Time, but the Pieces of Bread, Pie, and Pitcher of Water.

WHEN she had been confined there four Weeks all but a few Hours, she got out about four o'Clock in the Afternoon on a *Monday*, by breaking down a Board that was

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nailed up at the Inside of a Window. Her Manner of getting through the Hole was, she first thrust her Head out, kept fast hold by the Wall, then got her Body out, and turning herself round, jump'd down, from the Height of about eight or ten Feet, into a little narrow Place by a Lane with a Field behind it; and it being a soft clay Ground, catch'd no Hurt by the Fall. Being asked, what she did for Cloathing, said, she took an old sort of a Bedgown, and a Handkerchief that were in the Hayloft and lay in a Grate in the Chimney. She had made her Ear bleed in getting out, and having tied the Handkerchief over her Head instead of a Cap, had made it very bloody.

BEING on the Ground, she saw Nobody, and going on the backside of the House, walked up a Lane, and crossed over a little Brook into the Fields, which she passed over, but how many she knows not, and by a Path-way came to the Roadside, and by the Road went strait to *London*: She called at no House, and when she came into *Moorfields* she heard the Clock strike Ten, and in about a Quarter of an Hour after, got home to her Mother's in *Aldermanbury*. The first Person she saw on her coming Home, was the Apprentice, then her Mother and the Children, and her Mother fell directly into a Fit. Soon after came in Mrs. *Woodward*, to whom she related in what Manner she had lived upon Bread and Water. Mrs. *Woodward* was so afflicted, that she could not ask her many Questions. Then Mr. *Wintlebury* came in, to whom she had been a Servant before she lived with Mr. *Lyon*. He took her by the Hand, and asked her where she had been. She told him in the *Hertfordshire* Road; which she knew, by seeing her Mistress's Coachman go by, with whom she used to go into the Country into *Hertfordshire*; and that she knew it to be the same Coach, having used to carry Things to, and fetch them from it. Then other People came in, to whom she gave an Account of the Jugg of Water, and the Manner of her breaking out. Being asked, what Things she saw in the Hayloft, answered, a Barrel, a Saddle, a Bason, and a Tobacco-Mould.

ON her Cross-examination she was asked, how long those two Men continued with her in *Moorfields*. She replied, about half an Hour. Many other Questions were put to her; particularly, How long the two Men staid in

the Room? She said, they staid no longer than till they saw her Stays cut off; and went away before she was put up in the Hayloft. To other Questions put to her by the Court, she answered, That she had never been that Way before; that on the Road she asked People she met the Way to *London*; that the Reason of her not going into any House to make known her deplorable Condition, was, for Fear of meeting somebody that belong'd to the House where she was confin'd; that she never saw *Wells* all the Time she was there; that she had no Fits while she was in the Room, but was fainting and sick; that she once push'd against the Door, with her Hand, but found it fast; that sometimes she heard a Blowing of the Fire, and People passing in and out; in another Room she heard a Noise at Night, but the House was very quiet in the Day-time; that she had eat all her Bread on the *Friday* before she got out, and it being hard, she soak'd it in the Water, and that she drank all the Water about half an Hour before she got out of the Room.

ON being asked, where she did her Occasions while in the Room, answered, that she never had any Stool during her Confinement, and had only made Water.

R E M A R K S.

1. IT does not sufficiently appear what Motive induced these Men to carry this Girl such a Length of Way in the darkest Part of a Winter's Night.

2. NEITHER is it probable that they should be able to do it, as she was almost all the Time in a Fit, which must occasion them an infinite deal of Trouble, either by her convulsive Agitations, or being like a lifeless insensible Corpse; must be a constant dead Weight upon their Hands.

3. THE Gipsy does not appear to have had any rational Motive for using the Girl in the Manner sworn to; for her Behaviour was quite inconsistent with any Design to make her a Prostitute, or to increase the Family of Gipseys, much less to murder her.

4. IT is in the highest Degree improbable not to say impossible, that *Canning* should survive such Usage, and all the Terrors it must have occasioned, or that she should be kept alive with no other Sustenance than what she has declared.

5. NOR

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5. NOR is it very credible, that she should lengthen out her small Allowance, so as to proportion it to last till within two Days of her Escape.

6. IT is difficult to imagine, how there came to be such a Waste of Bread in the House, as to amount to the Quantity of a Quartern Loaf, since the whole Family consisted but of two Persons, *Wells* and her Lodger *Hall*; unless we can suppose, that the Gipsy carried such a Number of dry Crusts in her Wallet; but I am apt to think they were too hard for her poor old Stumps to grind.

7. IN her Evidence before the Jury, she swears, that she eat all the Bread on the *Friday* before she got out, but did not drink all the Water till within half an Hour of her Escape: Yet in her Information before Justice *Fielding*, she declares, that on *Friday* the 26th of *January*, she consumed all the aforesaid Bread and Water, and continued without having any Thing to eat or drink, until the *Monday* following, when she made her Escape.

8. THERE appears no Reason why she did not make that Escape the first or second Night, which she accomplished after a Month's Confinement.

9. IN her first Examination before the sitting Alderman, she described the Place where she was confined, to be a dark Room; in which she laid upon Boards; that there was nothing in it but a Grate, with a Gown in it, and a few Pictures over the Chimney; from which she made her Escape by forcing down some Boards, through the Cracks of which she discovered the Face of a Coachman whom she knew. But they who have seen the Room affirm, it is so far from being dark, that there were two Windows in it, wide enough for her to get through, without being at the Trouble of pulling down Boards; and from whence she might have seen the Coachman without straining her Eyes to peep through the Cracks. There was neither Grate nor Pictures, nor could the former have been there of a long Time, for the whole Extent of the Chimney was covered with Cobwebs. Yet there was what she must have seen during her long Residence there, namely, a Casement over the Chimney, a Chest of Drawers of an uncommon Fashion, near half a Load of Hay, a Hole in the Wall for a Jack-line, through which might be seen every Thing that was done in the Kitchen; several Holes were likewise in the Floor, where the Edge of the Boards were rotted away.

However,

However, after she had seen the Place, when her Friends had conveyed her thither to take up *Wells* and the Gipse, she found several other Particulars which she omitted at her Examination before the Alderman.

10. It is evident that *Canning*, at her Examination before the sitting Alderman, knew nothing of the Gipse, nor did then mention her, for she positively swore to her being robbed and confined by *Mother Wells*; and accordingly a Warrant was granted for the apprehending *Mother Wells* only. For the Truth of which I appeal to the original Warrant granted by Alderman *Chitty*, a Copy of which here follows.

To all Constables, and others his Majesty's Officers of the Peace, whom these may concern.

London **T**HESSE are in his Majesty's Name, to com-
to wit. mand you and every of you, upon Sight here-
of, to take and bring before me, or some other of his Ma-
jesty's Justices of the Peace for the said City and Liberties,
the Body of a Person *that goes by the Name of Mother Wells,*
and lives at Endfield Wash in the County of Middlesex, of
whom you shall have Notice, to answer to all such Mat-
ters and Things, as on his Majesty's Behalf shall be
objected against her by *Elizabeth Canning*, for violently as-
saulting her, and stripping her of a Pair of Stays, Value
20s. and upwards, her Property, afterwards *forcibly de-*
taining her in a Room in her House, and there keeping her
with *Bread and Water*, for upwards of three Weeks, from
whence she made her Escape, as *Oath* hath been made
thereof before me. Hereof fail not at your Peril. Given
under my Hand and Seal, this 31st Day of *January* in the
Year of our Lord 1753.

THOMAS CHITTY.

THIS Warrant was back'd by *William Withers*, Esq;
a Justice of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*, in the
Form following.

To all Constables, &c.

Middlesex **L**ET the within the Warrant be executed in-
to wit. this County, if the within described Person,
who

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who goes by the Name of *Mother Wells*, be found therein. Given under my Hand and Seal the 31st Day of January, 1753.

WILLIAM WITHERS.

BUT, however it was, when *Canning* and her Friends came the next Day to execute the Warrant upon *Mother Wells*, and the People in the House were brought before the Girl for her to find out the Criminal, she happened, by some strange Fatality, to pitch upon *Mary Squires* the Gipsy; who accordingly was committed by Justice *Tybb-maker* to *New-Prison*, for the Robbery, &c. and *Susanah Wells* to *Bridewell*, for aiding, abetting and comforting the said *Squires* in the said Robbery.

ALL this duly weighed and considered, and likewise compared with what *Canning* swore upon the Trial of the Gipsy, viz. *That she never saw Mother Wells in the House at all till she went down afterwards*, is enough, one would think, to shake the Credit of this Girl's Evidence in the Opinion of every impartial thinking Man.

WE come now to *Virtue Hall*, who being sworn, deposed as follows, viz. That she knew the two Prisoners at the Bar; that *Wells* lived at *Enfield Wash*, and that she lived with her as a Lodger; *Mary Squires* lodged in the same House, and had been there about seven or eight Weeks, and about a Fortnight before *Canning* was brought in, which was the 2d of *January* about four in the Morning, by two Men, *John Squires* was one of them, Son of *Mary Squires*, the other Man she knew nothing of, having never seen him before. *Canning* had no Gown on, nor Hat, nor Apron. There were in the House at that Time *Mary Squires* the Prisoner, her Daughter, the Gipsy-man, and herself. The Gipsy-man said, Mother, I have brought you a Girl, do you take her. Upon which *Squires* asked her, whether she would go their Way, meaning, to turn Whore. Being asked, whether she spoke this by way of Explanation, or as Words the Gipsy said? answered, as Words that she said. Then *Squires* took a Knife out of the Dresser Drawer and ripped the Lace of her Stays, pulled them off, and hung them on the Back of a Chair, and pushing her up into the Room, said, *D----n you, go up there then if you please*. Then the Man who came in with the Gipsy's Son, took off *Canning's* Cap, and went out of Door with it, and *John Squires* took

took the Stays off the Chair, and went out with them ; this was after *Canning* was pushed up into the Room.

As to the Room, she said, she knew it very well, that it was called the Workshop, where they put their Lumber, that there was a great deal of Hay in it, and many Pieces of Wood, a Tobacco Mould, and a black Jugg which *Mary Squires* filled with Water, and put there about three Hours after the young Woman was carried up.

WHEN she left the Kitchen and went into the Parlour, *Wells* said, *Virtue Hall*, the Gipsy-man came in and told me, that his Mother had cut the Stays off the young Woman's Back, and had got them, and she bid her (*Hall*) not to say any Thing to make a Clack of it, for Fear it should be known.

SHE said farther, that she had been in the House a Quarter of a Year, and was there the whole Time *Canning* was confined, but never saw her after she was put into that Room, and was the first that missed her ; and upon asking the Gipsy, whether the Girl was gone, she answered, what is that to you, you have no Business with it ; so she durst not go see, fearing if she had, they would have served her so too.

SHE was then asked, who lodged in the House? She replied, *Fortune Natus* ; and that she herself went there as a Lodger, but was forced to do as they would have her, and was there at the Time when she, *Squires*, and the rest of them were taken up ; but never saw the Cap and Bed-gown which were then shewed her in Court.

REMARKS.

1. *CANNING*, in her Evidence, swears, that the Men staid no longer than till they saw her Stays cut off, and then went away, before she was put in the Loft. *Virtue Hall* swears, that *Canning* was up in the Room when the Men took away her Stays and Cap.

2. UPON *Canning's* swearing, that when the Gipsy asked her, whether she chose to go their Way, and she answering no, the Court demanded, if the Gipsy explained to her what she meant by going their Way, she replied no. *Virtue Hall*, reciting the same Passage, was asked by the Court, what the Gipsy meant by those Words? She meant, answered *Hall*, to turn Where. She was again asked, if she men-

tioned this by Way of Explanation, or as Words the Gipsy said? she reply'd, *as Words, the Gipsy said.* In these Instances the Reader will observe a manifest Contradiction.

3. SHE declares likewise, that she had lived with *Wells* as a Lodger for a Quarter of a Year and upwards, and had been induced to conform to the Customs of the House, bad as they were; and it does not appear, that she harboured any Animosity either against *Wells* or the Gipsy; and therefore it is hard to assign a Reason for her swearing against either of them. And this will still appear more difficult to account for, when we consider,

4. THAT when she was carried before Justice *Tybbmaker*, she stoutly denied, that she ever saw *Canning* before she and her Friends came down with a Warrant to take them all up; and affirmed that no such Robbery was committed in that House since she had lived in it; upon which she was discharged and went Home.

5. WHEN she was brought before Justice *Fielding* on a Warrant he had issued out against her, she resolutely persisted in her former Declaration, that she knew nothing of the Robbery said to be committed by the Gipsy on *Canning*, and never saw her till she came down with her Friends as before-mentioned, and this she positively stood to for six Hours together, for so long the Justice had her under Examination; till at last, finding his Arguments could not prevail with her to confess any Thing to the Prejudice of Mother *Wells*, or the Gipsy; he plainly told her, ' he would examine her no longer, but would commit her to Prison, and leave her to stand or fall by the Evidence that should be given against her, and at the same Time advised Mr. *Salt* to prosecute her as a Felon, together with the Gipsy-woman; upon which she begged him to hear her once more, and said she would tell the Truth.' These are Mr. *Fielding's* own Words; and let the candid and unprejudiced Reader judge whether the Horrors of a Jail with which she was threaten'd, and the Terror of a Prosecution for Felony, added to the Consciousness of her own irregular Courses, might not be too powerful Motives to secure her own Safety, though at the Expence of Truth?

6. The Recantation of *Virtue Hall*, after the Conviction of the Gipsy, is another Weight thrown into the Scale against the Credibility of *Canning's* Story. What Motives she

she had, and by what Means induced to retract her Evidence, and confess herself forsworn at the Trial of *Mary Squires*, may deserve some Consideration.

ON *Tuesday, March 6, 1753*, in the Evening, Justice *Lediard*, and some other Gentlemen, discoursing on this Affair, it was mentioned, that *Virtue Hall*, upon whose Evidence *Squires* was principally convicted, was then in the Gatehouse; upon which they agreed to send for her. When she was brought, the Justice talked to her in a very serious Manner, concerning the Crime of Perjury; that if she had falsely sworn against the Gipsy, the Blood of the Innocent would be laid to her Charge, which yet she had an Opportunity to prevent by confessing the Truth, if she had been guilty of a false Oath: With many other Arguments, which made a visible Impression upon her; Tears trickled down her Cheeks, her Spirits were violently agitated, and her Thoughts confused; she seemed willing to say something, and even dropt some Words, that intimated some dreadful Secret labouring in her Mind, but fearful of the Consequences if she should utter it; and therefore desired that Night to consider of it, promising in the Morning to speak the whole Truth. They granted her Request, and assured her that a Recantation of her Evidence should not turn to her Prejudice.

IN the mean while, one of the Company informed Sir *Crisp Gascoyne*, the Lord Mayor, of the above Examination of *Virtue Hall*. Upon which he sent Orders to the Gatehouse to have her brought before him; and when she came, he treated her in so gentle and discreet a Manner, that she was at length prevailed upon to make the following Confession:

‘ THAT what she had sworn against *Mary Squires*, was false: That this Woman was not in the House of Mrs. *Wells* on the Day when the Robbery was said to be committed, nor for some Weeks after; that no such Robbery was ever committed there at all, and that *Elizabeth Canning* never was in the House until brought down to it by those who carried on the Prosecution.

SHE farther added, that she had declared the same Thing before the Justice, and that no Person whatsoever had been confined in that House, nor in any Room belonging to it, and that the whole Story of *Canning's* being robb'd there is a mere Forgery.

HIS Lordship then asked her, how she came to swear to such a Number of Falsities, against the Life of a Person who had never had done her any Injury? To this she gave a plain and direct Answer, that she was terrified into it.

THE next Day his Lordship sent for her again, and demanded of her in the most solemn Manner, whether what she had declared the Day before was true, or whether what she deposed at the Trial were so? To which she answered, That what she had last declared was the Truth, and that all she had sworn upon the Trial was false. And having no longer any Awe or Dread upon her Spirits, she added, That she had always given the same Account to every Person that had the Curiosity to ask her any Questions about it; and protested, that she would not have sworn falsely had she not been frightened into it.

WHEN his Lordship was thoroughly satisfied that *Virtue Hall* had made an ingenuous Confession, he ordered *Elizabeth Canning* to be brought in and confronted with her. *Hall* repeated, with great Composure, to her Face, what she had before declared to his Lordship; adding, that while she kept the Secret of her Perjury to herself, she had no Peace nor Rest, but that her Mind was perfectly at Ease, since she had discovered it.

CANNING was then allowed to ask her any Questions she thought proper; but as those Questions were taken from the Evidence that *Hall* had before given, the Repetition is needless.

LET us now return to the other Witnesses who gave their Evidence at the Trial of the Gipsy. *Thomas Colley*, *Canning's* Uncle, deposed, that on New Year's Day, she dined and supped at his House at *Saltpetre Bank*, and about nine in the Evening he and his Wife went along with her to *Houndsditch*, where they parted with her about half an Hour after nine o'Clock.

ELIZABETH CANNING, the Mother, was then sworn, who deposed, that her Daughter was missing from New Year's Day; that she advertised her three Times; and that she came home the Day before King *Charles's* Martyrdom, about a Quarter after Ten at Night, with nothing but a ragged Bed-gown and a Cap. At the Sight of her, she fell into a Fit, and that her Daughter is subject to Fits, occasioned by the Fall of a Garret Ceiling on her Head, and is still apt to fall into one on any Surprise, or if any one speaks hastily to her, and continues in one

one three or four, and sometimes seven or eight Hours. When her Daughter was put in a warm Bed, she was very sick, and had no free Passage through her for Stool or Urine, till she was supply'd with Glitters, for seven Days after she came home, but what was forced by half a Cupful at a Time.

THE next Witness was *John Wintlebury*, who deposed, that he saw *Canning* the Night she came home, when she appeared in a very bad Condition; and asking her where she had been, she said upon the *Hertfordshire* Road, because she had seen that Coach go backwards and forward. She gave the same Account that Night, but not quite so fully, as she did before the Sitting Alderman the *Wednesday* following, but all agrees with what she now said.

REMARK.

IT has been shewn, that in the Information before Justice *Fielding*, she varied in several Particulars from the Account she gave to the Sitting Alderman, especially in her Description of the Room where she said she was confined.

JOSEPH ADAMSON, the next Witness, swore, that he had known *Elizabeth Canning* the younger, for some Years, but did not see her after she came home, till the Day that he and several of his Neighbours, upon Agreement, went to the Place. He was there about an Hour and a half before the rest of the Company came, and secured the People he found there. He viewed the Room before *Canning* was brought, and returning to meet her, asked her several Questions about it, and she described it as an old odd sort of a Room, with some Hay in it, and a Chimney in one Corner of it. He took her out of the Chaise, carried her into the Kitchen, set her on the Dresser, and ordered all the People to be brought to her, to see if she knew any of them, and upon seeing *Mary Squires*, said, *That is the Woman that cut my Stays off and threatened to cut my Throat if I made a Noise.* They were all very unwilling to be stopped, especially *Mary Squires*. After the Girl had said this, *Squires* said to her, *I hope you will not swear my Life away, for I never saw you before.* *Canning* then pointed to *Virtue Hall* and another young Woman, and said they were both in the Room at the Time she was brought in. Then, says he, we carried her up to examine the

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the House, but she said, none of the Rooms she had seen was that wherein she had been confined. Then they took her into that Room, which she said was the same, only there was more Hay in it now than then; but this Witness laying his Hand upon it, said it had been lately shook up and lay hollow. She being then pretty near a Casement, he said to her, If you have been so long in this Room, doubtless you are able to say what is to be seen through it. Upon which she described a Hill at a Distance, which is *Chinkford-Hill*; and he believes she could not see it at the Time he spoke, because he stood between her and the Casement, with his Back to it. She added, there were some Houses on the other Side of the Lane, and upon opening the Window, they saw them. She then shew'd them the Way where she got through by breaking down the Boards, and through which she saw the Coach go by. They pulled down the Boards, and found the Hole big enough for this Witness to get out of, and it appeared to him to be the same Window before she came to the House, for he saw some of the Plaister broke off on the Outside; that Window was one Story high.

REMARKS.

1. IT has been observed, that some of those Gentlemen who went down to view the Place, after she had given an Account of the Room, declared, that her Description of it did not in the least agree with it; of which they were so well convinced, that they gave up her Cause, as no longer defensible.

2. ONE, who believ'd the Story, was so eager to get Proofs of the Truth of it, that he hurried down before the rest of the Company, and, after viewing the Place, rode back to meet her, and from the Circumstances related of their Conversation, it is not difficult to imagine, that he asked her, *If there was not Hay in the Room?* By which leading Question she easily judged that there was, and accordingly answer'd in the Affirmative. Immediately he rides back with triumphant Huzzas, crying out, *That they were all right yet; for she had said now that there was Hay in the Room.* That is, after he had told her, in Effect, that there was, she said so.

THE next Witness called, was *Edward Lyon*, who deposed, that the young Woman had liv'd with him as his Servant till the Time she was missing; that he was one of those

those who went down to *Wells's* House on the first of *February*, that they were there some time before she came, and had taken the People up. On her coming to the House, she was set upon a Dresser, and the People placed round her. He then said to her, *Bett*, don't be frightened or uneasy, you see your Friends about you; and on the other Hand, don't be too sure, without you really can swear to what you say; therefore be very careful. She pitched upon *Mary Squires* to be the Person, who cut her Stays off, and said that *Squires's* Daughter and *Virtue-Hall* were in the Kitchen at the same Time, but they did nothing to her; the black Jugg was brought down, a Bason, and a Tobacco Mould, which she said were in the Room where she was confined, and had described the Jugg before, and said it was broken at the Mouth.

R E M A R K.

T H I S *Bason* was never mention'd by *Canning*, or any of her Witnesses before.

R O B B E R T S C A R R A T, being sworn, deposed, that he with others, went down to *Endfield Wash*; that the Night she came home she described the Fields and likewise a Bridge near the House; he asked her if she observed a Tanner's House near? She said, she believed there was.

H E was then asked by the Court, if *John Squires* was in the Room when *Canning* pitched upon his Mother and the rest? He said he was, but the Girl could not swear to him, because he had not his great Coat on, but had pulled it off since their coming in; she said he was like the Prisoner, but could not swear to him. When they were before the Justice, they made him put on his Great Coat, and then she said he looked more like one of the two Men that brought her there than he did before.

E D W A R D R O S S I T E R, another Witness, deposed, that he went down with the rest, and heard *Canning* examined before Justice *Tyshmaker*, when she gave the same Account as now; and that *John Squires* was like one of the Men when he had got his great Coat on; and that she did not see *Wells* in the House, but once saw her out of a Window, but did not know she was the Woman that kept the House.

R E M A R K S.

C A N N I N G, on the Trial, swore, she never saw *Wells* at all during her whole Confinement, nor gave the least

least Hint, that she had seen a Woman through the Window, who she since understood was Mrs. *Wells*.

SUTHERTON BAKER, Apothecary, deposed, that he attended her the Day after she came home, and found her extremely weak and low, and could scarcely hear her speak, her Pulse scarcely perceptible, and herself in cold Sweats. She told him she had no Passage through her during the whole Time of her Confinement, and was then in such a Condition, that he prescribed Glisters to be given her, one the same Day, and several more afterwards, which in Time relieved her.

THE Court, being somewhat shock'd at the Strangeness of the Case, asked him, If a Person extremely costive, could not subsist longer without Food, or with less, than a Person that was not so? He said, he could not answer to that.

R E M A R K S.

1. DR. *DODD*, in his Physical Account of *Canning's* Case, mentions other Effects of her Fasting, namely, a great Consumption of Body, a livid Blackness of the Skin, the Belly swelled, the Head heavy, an obstinate Costiveness, and Want of other Evacuations. But the Apothecary tells us nothing of all this; which surely cannot be imputed to his Want of Discernment; neither is it probable that he would conceal any Thing that could add to the Horror of the Tale, or inspire Pity for the Sufferer, especially on that Occasion. It seems therefore much more credible, that the Girl made no other Complaints than what are mentioned by the Apothecary. But,

2. IF the several Symptoms here enumerated by the Doctor, did actually occur, how could a Person labouring under these accumulated Infirmities be carried, or be able to travel to *Endfield-Wash* two Days after her Return from thence? Her Friends seem to have had a different Opinion of her Weakness, or her Mother and another Woman would never have filled the covered Part of the Chaise, and placed her on a back Seat, exposed to the Inclemency of the Weather, on the first of *February*; had they set her on a Coach-box she would not have been much more at Ease.

3. IT is well known, that a Gentleman of the Faculty who was consulted on this Occasion, advised to put her into *St. Bartholomew's Hospital*, and got an Order for her Admission, and to save her Friends the Expence, had procured

cured a Chair to convey her there ; but on the very Day that this was proposed to be done, he was told they had changed their Minds, and would not send her to any Hospital. But can any other Reason be assigned for refusing this generous and humane Proposal, but that she apprehended her Artifices would be detected ?

THUS far the Evidence for the Crown ; and *Mary Squires* was now called upon to make her Defence. Upon which the three Men from *Abbotsbury* appeared. The first was *John Gibon*, who deposed that he lived at *Abbotsbury*, and is Master of the House called the *Old Ship*. On the first of *January*, 1753, the Prisoner, *Mary Squires*, came to his House, together with *George* her Son, and *Lucy* her Daughter, as she called them ; they had Handkerchiefs, Lawns, Muslins, and Checks to sell about Town ; and she staid there from the first to the ninth of the Month, and laid at his House. Said, he had kept that House two Years come *Lady-Day*, and was sure that the Woman at the Bar was the Person who had lodged with him that Time, and had known her for three Years. Said, he was born in the Town, was a married Man, and had a Wife and one Child, and was bred in the Farming Way at *Fisberton*.

HE was asked, how he came to recollect the Day that *Squires* was at his House, answered, That there came an Exciseman to officiate there, for one *John Wick* that was sick, and he, this Witness, put the Day of the Month down when he came ; and that the Excise Office was kept at his House. They offered to sell their Goods to him and others, and his Wife bought two cheque Aprons.

WILLIAM CLARK deposed, that he had lived at *Abbotsbury* seven Years ; that he remembered his seeing the Gipsy there, and that the last Time he saw her was on the 10th of *January* last ; he overtook them on the Road, went some Way together, and parted from them at *Crude-way-stone*, three Miles from *Abbotsbury*, and four from *Dorchester*, said, he had seen her three Years before, come *March*, at *Abbotsbury* ; and that they came with Handkerchiefs, Lawns, and Muslins to sell ; and saw the Landlord's Wife at the Ship buy some Aprons of them the last Time they were there. The Reason of his remembering the Day he saw them there was, by keeping his other Accounts, having carried out Goods the same Day to *Portsmouth*. They talked of going for *London*, and lodged, while

while at *Abbotsbury*, at the House of Mr. *Gibon*, where he saw them the first of *January*, and where he commonly used to drink a Pot of Beer in an Evening.

BEING asked by the Court, where he kept his *Christmas-day*, and whether he knew the Difference betwixt the New and Old Stile? to both these Questions he answered in the Negative; but if he was to die for the Woman he would speak the Truth. She was cloathed as she is now, and the Son was in a blue Coat and red Waistcoat, had a great Coat with him, and was about five Foot seven or eight Inches high, and the Girl was in a Camblet Gown. He was very positive that he saw her there on the first of *January*, and either on the ninth or tenth afterwards, and in the mean Time saw them going about the Town to sell their Things. Said, he was a Housekeeper, and had been in Business about six Years, and was a Cordwainer.

THE third Witness was *Thomas Grevil*, who deposed, that he lived at *Combe*, three Miles from *Salisbury*, and kept the Sign of the Lamb, a publick House, and that *Mary Squires* was at his House the fourteenth of *January* five Weeks ago last *Sunday*, and lay there one Night, and her Son and Daughter were with her, selling Handkerchiefs, Lawns, &c.

BEING asked how he came to take such particular Notice of the Time, answered, That there was a Carpenter at his House who had spent the greatest part of his Money, and it being *Sunday* Night he would have him go about his Business, and put him out of the House two or three Times; then he went over the Way to another House and pawned his Ax.

THESE three Witnesses shewed their Subornas, as the Cause of their coming to give their Evidence.

AFTER the Examination of these Witnesses, in Behalf of the Prisoner, was finished, one more was called for the Crown, his name *John Inifer*, who swore that he sold Fish and Oysters about *Waltham-Cross* and *Theobalds*; that he knew the Prisoner *Squires* very well, and that the last Time he saw her was, when she was taken at *Wells's* House, and three Weeks before, going about to People's Houses to tell their Fortunes and told him his, but saw nothing she had to sell, and that she was always alone; except when she was taken up, and then there was a young Man in Blue Grey, and two young Women with her at *Wells's* House.

R E M A R K.

IT seems a little strange, that though there appeared such a Multitude of Witnesses from *Enfield-Wash* and its Neighbourhood, at the Trial of *Canning*, to prove *Squires* to be at *Wells's* and thereabouts, during the whole Time of the Girl's pretended Confinement, yet that only this Fellow, of little or no Credit or Account, could be found to prove the same Thing at the Trial of the Gipsy, when their Evidence was as necessary to convict her as to justify *Canning*.

WELLS being called upon to make her Defence, confessed that her Character was but indifferent; that she had an unfortunate Husband who was hanged; and as to the young Woman (*Canning*) she never saw her, till she and her Friends came down to take them up; and as to *Squires*, she never saw her above a Week and a Day before they were taken up.

BUT though this poor unhappy Wretch *Squires*, had Nobody but these three Men from *Abbotsbury*, who had travelled above a hundred Miles to serve her on this Occasion, and though her Life depended upon the Credit that should be given to their Testimony, yet being asked what she had to say, why Sentence of Death should not be passed upon her, made this Declaration: On New-Year's Day I lay at *Combe* at the Widow *Grevil's* House; the next Day I was at *Stoptage*, where were some People that were cast away, and they came along with me to a little House on the Top of the Moor and drank there, my Son and Daughter were with me. Coming along *Popham Lane* there were some People raking up Dung. I drank at the second Alehouse in *Basingstoke* on *Thursday* in New-Year's Week. On *Friday* I lay at a little tiny House on *Bagshot Heath*. *Saturday* I lay at *Old Brentford*, at Mr. *Edwards's*, who sells Greens and small Beer. I could have told this before, but one pulled me and another pulled me, and would not let me speak. I lay at Mr. *Edwards's* the *Sunday* and *Monday*; and on the *Tuesday* or *Wednesday* after, I came from them to Mrs. *Wells's* House.

R E M A R K.

IN this Account of her several Stages from *Abbotsbury* to *Endfield*, the Reader may observe a manifest Variation
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from that given as above by the three Witnesses. But though she made some little Mistakes as to the Days of the Month when she was at such and such Places, yet as to the Days of the Week she was right, and her differing from them may be accounted for by her reckoning by the Old Stile, and her Witnesses by the New.

THIS Variation between the Declaration of the Prisoner and the Evidence of the Witnesses, adds Weight to that before given against her; and being found guilty, Sentence of Death was pronounced upon her; yet not to the entire Satisfaction of the whole Court; for my Lord Mayor and several other Gentlemen were of Opinion, that the whole Truth had not been discovered; and therefore Methods have been taken to bring the Matter to a fuller Explanation; which being well known to every Body, I shall not here repeat, but only observe, that many and strong Proofs arising that *Squires* was at *Abbotsbury* and in the Neighbourhood of it, at the Time the Robbery was sworn to be committed, a Prosecution was set on Foot against *Canning*, who at the next Sessions was indicted for Perjury. Her Friends being informed of this new Proceeding, resolve to invalidate the Evidence against her, and accordingly indict the three *Abbotsbury* Witnesses for the same Crime; but the Grand Jury, upon observing the manifest Contradictions in the Evidence of such a Number of Witnesses as appeared for each Party, to prevent the Scandal of so many horrid Perjuries, threw out both the Bills. This was at the *April* Sessions. Before the next Sessions in *June*, *Canning's* Friends were informed, that another Bill would be preferred against her; for which Reason they again preferred Bills against the *Gipsy's* Witnesses; all which Bills were found the 9th of *June*; and the same Night it was agreed by the Solicitors, that the Indictments should be removed by *Certiorari* into the *Kings-Bench*, and be tried the Sitting after that Term. But that being found impracticable, they were sent back again to the *Old-Bailey*, and the Solicitor for the Country Witnesses gave Bail for their Appearance at the next Sessions to be held there; but the Solicitor for *Canning* refused to do the same for her, and her Friends kept her a long Time in Concealment, till she was forced, by an Outlawry, to come forth and take her Trial.

IN the mean Time, at the Sessions held in *September*, the three *Abbotsbury* Witnesses, *Gibon*, *Clark*, and *Grevil*, against whom Bills had been found, appeared to their several Indictments, which were read, and all the Witnesses on the Bills called over, but none of them appeared, except *Mary Woodward*, and she declaring she knew nothing of the Matter, an Officer was dispatched to require the Prosecutors to attend the Court; but as neither they nor their Solicitor thought fit to come, the Defendants were acquitted.

During the Time the Messenger was gone, Mr. Davy, Council for the Defendants, took that Opportunity of addressing him- to the Court as follows :

MY LORD,

I HAVE the Honour to appear before your Lordship in behalf of the three Defendants; who stand indicted for Perjury, supposed to have been committed by them in this Place, upon the Trial of *Mary Squires*, for the Robbery of *Elizabeth Canning*, at *Enfield-wash*, in *January* last.

GIBON and *Clark* are charged with falsely swearing, that *Mary Squires* was at *Abbotsbury* from the First to the Ninth of *January*, and *Greville*, that he was at *Combe* on the Fourteenth.

IF their Testimony was true, *Mary Squires* was unjustly accused; but it was her's, and their Misfortune, that it then obtained no Credit.

THEY were Strangers unknown to every Body at the Trial, *Canning* was positive, and being by unfair Means confirmed in her Evidence, *Squires* was convicted.

UPON this Charge of Perjury great Care hath been taken, attended with great Expence, on either Side, to search this Matter to the Bottom; every Circumstance hath been scrutinized, and nothing omitted to investigate the Question thoroughly.

IT hath a long while been the general Subject of Conversation, and hath engaged the Attention of the Public, more, perhaps, than any private Transaction ever did before.

HERE are the Names of no less than fifty Witnesses indorsed upon each of their Indictments; yet only one of them, a Poor Woman, whose Evidence is immaterial, appears to prosecute.

THIS

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THIS Desertion may occasion various Conjectures, and many false Reasons will, probably, be suggested for not prosecuting these Indictments.

IT may perhaps be attributed to a Compromise---It may be said, that these Defendants are to be acquitted by Consent, and that the Indictment against *Canning* is to be dropped. One cannot easily imagine what Rumours Malice may raise.

FOR this Reason, and to prevent any Imputation upon those who are concerned for the Defendants, I beg leave to assure your Lordship, and all who hear me, that the Defendants now come prepared for Trial; that their Witnesses attend your Lordship, ready to give their Testimony with such clear, ample, convincing Circumstances, as would demand universal Assent; and fully prove, the Innocence of the three Defendants, and the Falsity of *Elizabeth Canning's* Story in every Particular.

HERE are Witnesses, more in Number than perhaps ever appear'd in any one Cause, collected together at a vast Expence, and from different remote Places.

HERE is other Evidence also ready to be produced, such as, in its Nature, cannot deceive.

THE Prosecutors have been invited to meet them here before your Lordship and the Jury; and so desirous were the Defendants that this Matter should be fairly tried, that they have offered to bear Part of the Charges of this Prosecution.

THE Public hath been a long while amused with Promises, that in the Trials of these Indictments, the Guilt of the present Defendants should be clearly manifested, and the whole of this mysterious Transaction unravelled.

THE Time is come to perform these Promises, and thousands expect it.

WHY do all these Boasters now hide their Faces? because they are covered with Confusion.

THEY are aware how dangerous it is to pursue a Prosecution founded in the foulest and most daring Perjury; and wisely withdraw themselves from a Trial which would involve them in Ruin.

HAD I considered the Case of the Defendants alone, without Regard to any other Person, I should have thought it needless to give the Court any Trouble upon this Occasion.

THEY

THEY are private Countrymen, without any Connections in this Part of the World, and totally unconcerned at any Reports which may prevail here:---within the narrow Circle of their Acquaintance, their Characters will remain unblemished, let Fame do its worst; because the Charge against them is the Attestation of a Fact, which all their Acquaintance, all their Parish, and their whole Country, know to be true.

BUT there is ONE, whose near Relation to this great City, makes it necessary for me to say thus much.

IT is impossible for *Him* to be unsollicitous for Public Approbation, after having done so much to deserve it.

YET all the Reproaches which Malice could suggest to little, dark, designing Men, have been levelled at the chief Magistrate of this City, only for doing what the Love of Justice and Humanity inspired Him to.

FOR His sake, therefore, I have thus trespassed upon your Lordship's Patience, and only beg leave to add a few Words more to shew how unmerited those Reflections were.

As his Lordship was at the Head of the Commission at the Trial of *Mary Squires*, and was totally uninfluenced by the infamous Endeavours which at that Time had been used to give Credit to a most improbable Narrative; he was directed, merely by a regard for Truth, to make further Enquiry into a Story, pregnant with Absurdities, and unlike any Transaction that ever went before it.

AND the Evidence of *Elizabeth Canning* depending entirely upon this Question, whether the Account which these three Men had given was true, where could his Lordship so properly direct his Enquiry, as to those Places, where they swore they had seen her?

THE Success of that Enquiry answered the Wishes of his Humanity; and the most indubitable Proofs of this Convict's Innocence warmed the Royal Heart to Mercy.

ONE should have thought, that this Conduct of a Magistrate, whose sole Motive to it was, a Desire of rescuing a wretched, friendless, Convict, from the Miseries into which Perjury, and popular Prejudice had thrown her, should, at least, exempt him from Censure.

BUT his Enemies could never forgive him the Merit of this Action: As it raised him still higher in the Esteem of good Men, he became more the Object of Envy, and no

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Arts were unessayed to diminish the Reputation he had so justly acquired.

HAD my Lord-mayor been present, I should not have said so much; but I have been the more encouraged to it from observing, that his Lordship withdrew himself as soon as these Causes were called, because he was pleased to think it improper for him to preside, where any Thing that might be thought to concern himself should come before the Court.

I HAVE an Apology to make for giving your Lordship any Trouble, where there is no Prosecution; but as the Court waits for the Return of a Messenger, and no Business is now proceeding upon, I hope I have given no Offence.

CANNING's Friends being obliged, in a Manner, to surrender her up to a Course of Justice, gave in Bail for her Appearance at the Sessions at the *Old Bailey*, and her Trial came on *April 29th*, and continued the 1st, 3d, 4th and 6th of *May*, 1754.

ELIZABETH CANNING was indicted for wilful and corrupt Perjury on the Trial of *Mary Squires*, in swearing she was robbed by the said *Mary Squires* of a Pair of Stays, Value 10 s. in the House of *Susannah Wells* at *Endfield-wash*, *Jan. 2. 1753.*

THE Court, in order to keep the Witnesses from assisting one another in their Evidence, had them called up separately and examined apart.

THE Indictment being opened by the Council for the Prosecution, *William Chetbam* produced the Copy of the Record of the Conviction of *Mary Squires* at the Sessions House in the *Old Bailey*, which was read, and not disputed by the Council on the other Side.

THOMAS GURNEY, the Minuter, was then called, who deposed from his Minutes to the Contents of *Canning's* Evidence given upon the Trial of *Mary Squires*.

ESTHER HOPKINS deposed, that she believed she saw the Old Woman, her Son and Daughter (who were all in Court) at her House at *South Parrot, Dorsetshire*, on the 29th of *December*, 1752.

ALICE FARNHAM deposed, that the Old Woman and her Son, were at her House at *Vineyard's Gap*, on a *Sunday Morning* a little before *Christmas*, 1752, and believe the Daughter was with them, but was not certain of it.

GEORGE

GEORGE SQUIRES, the Gipsy's Son, deposed, that he, with his Mother and Sister *Lucy*, were at *South Parrot* the 29th of *December*, 1752, and went to *Litton* the next Day, and to *Abbotsbury* on the 31st, where they staid from *January* 1st, to the 9th, and then went to *Portesham*, and so on to *Ridgway*, and on the 11th came to *Dorchester*, setting out from thence, they walked almost all Night till they came to a Village, and the next Day they lay in a Barn at *Marton*, and the Day after at *Combe*; but could not recollect where he lay afterwards till he came to *Basingstoke*, where he was directed to Lodgings at *Old Basing*. From thence they travelled to *Bagshot*, and lay there, and from thence came to *Brentford*, and from thence to the *Seven Sisters* at the Two Brewers near *Tottingham*, and so on to *Mother Wells's* at *Enfield-wash*; where he designed to stay till he could get a Debt which was due to him in *London* of 7 l. 15 s. being afraid to go to his own Lodgings at *Newington Butts*, where he had Goods of his own, for Fear of being arrested; and that they had been at *Wells's* but a Week and a Day before his Mother was taken up and committed.

BEING cross-examined, he gave but a lame Account of his Travels from *Newington* till he came to *South Parrot*, and named almost as many Counties he went through as Towns, nor could he tell the Sign of any House where he had lain.

FOUR Persons from *Litton* deposed that they saw the old Woman, her Son and Daughter there at the Time he mentioned; eleven from *Abbotsbury*, to their being at that Town from the 1st of *January* 1753, to the 9th of the same; and four their seeing them at *Portesham* on the 9th and 10th; one at *Fordingham* on the 11th; one at *Chattle* on the 12th; three at *Martin* on the 13th; five at *Combe* on the 14th; one at *Basingstoke* on the 15th; two at *Brentford* on the 20th, 21st, and 22d; two that they were near the *Seven Sisters* by *Tottingham* on the 23d of *January* 1753.

MR. ALDERMAN Chitney was the next Witness called, who deposed from his Minutes which he took at the Examination of *Elizabeth Canning* before him at *Guildhall*, *January* 31, 1753, that she then deposed, that upon the last New Year's Day, as she was returning from her Uncle's at or near *Salt-petre-bank*, by the dead Wall against *Bedlam* in *Moorfields*, near Ten at Night, she was met by

two Men, who robbed her of Half a Guinea, 3s. and a Halfpenny, took her Gown off her Back, and a Straw or Chip Hat; that she struggled and made a Noise, and that one stopped her Mouth with something like a Handkerchief, and swore, if she made any Noise or Resistance they would kill her, and hit her a Blow on the Head and stunned her, and forced her along *Bishopsgate-street*, each holding her up under the Arm; but did not remember any Thing more that passed, and did not come to herself till about half an Hour before she came to *Enfield-wash*, so called as she had learned since, to *Wells's* House; that there were several Persons in the Room; it was said she must do as they did, and if so, she should have fine Cloaths; she said she would not, but go Home; then a Woman forced her up Stairs into a Room, and with a Case Knife she had in her Hand, cut the Lace off her Stays and took them away, and told her there was Bread and Water in the said Room, and if she made any Noise, she would come in immediately and cut her Throat; then went out, and locked the Door; and that she never saw her nor any of them since, till she made her Escape. The Bread was in Quantity about a Quartern Loaf, in four, five, or six Pieces, and about three Quarters of a Gallon of Water, and a little more, in a Pitcher as she supposed; on which, and a Penny minced Pie she had in her Pocket, she subsisted till she got away, which was on the 29th of *January* about 3 or 4 o' Clock in the Afternoon, and made the best of her Way to *London*, to her Mother's in *Aldermanbury*; and said she had no Stool and only made Water, all the Time; that in the Room there was an old Stool or two, an old Picture over the Chimney, two Windows, one fastened up with Boards; and the other Part Glass and Part Boards. At the latter she made a Hole by removing a Pane of Glass, forced a Part open, and got out upon a Shed of Boards or Penthouse, and so slid down and jumped upon the Side of a Bank on the Backside of the House, and got Home that Night about Ten o' Clock. Soon after she came in, her Mother got her some Wine and Water, but she could not swallow it, and then sent for the Apothecary. Her Master *Lyon*, and Mr. *Wintlebury* gave her a very good Character. She apprehended it was the Woman of the House that had done her this Injury; and he accordingly granted his Warrant for apprehending Mother *Wells*, upon her swearing all this to be Truth.

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R E M A R K.

LET the Reader compare this Account given by the Alderman of her Examination before him, with that given by her in Court at the Trial of the Gipsy, and he will presently see what Consistency there is between them.

GAWEN NASH was the next Witness sworn, who deposed, that he was with *Canning* before Alderman *Chitney*; that she was asked, what Sort of a Room she was confined in, and that she said it was a little square darkish Room, and several Boards were nailed up at the Window, through the Cracks of which she could see the *Hertford* Stage-coach which used to carry her Mistress. She likewise said, that there were an old broken Stool or Chair, an Iron Grate in the Chimney, and a few old Pictures over it, and that she lay upon Boards. After the Warrant was granted, he, *Lyon*, *Aldridge*, and *Hague* went down to Mother *Wells's* in order to execute the Warrant the next Morning, which was *Feb. 1st.* and as they were on the Road they met People who told them they had seized them all; they went on, and on coming to Mother *Wells's* House, they went up into several Rooms, after which, a Man shewed him up into this Room, and when he was in it, he wondered were the Room was which *Canning* had described she was confined in; for, said he, this did not in any Part answer the Description she gave, for this was a very long Room. He then came down to his Companions, and they all went into the Room; when somebody said this must be the Room; to which he answered, it was nothing like that she had described. For in the Room was near half a Load of Hay, a Nest of Drawers about 4 f. by 3 high, a Tub in which was Pollard, three old Saddles, two of which were Women's, a Parcel of Hay made in the Form of a Bed, over which were a Jack-line and Pullies, and a Hole in the Wall where a Jack-line had gone through, but then stuffed with Hay; that it was a thin Clay and Lath-wall which separated that and the Kitchen, through which Hole when the Hay was taken out, one might see into and across the Kitchen into the Road; there was also a little Chimney in the Room, which seemed to be a little Place for warming a Glew-pot; an old dusty Casement stood over the Chimney; there was no Grate, nor the Appearance of one in

the Chimney. On observing the Window through which she escaped, he took Notice, that within nine or ten Feet of it was a watering Pond, and that the other Window had never been boarded up, and was large enough for him to get out, and so near the Ground, that he shook Hands with his Wife out of it, and the Casement opened and shut easily; some Trees grew so near it, they were almost within his Reach; the Room was very light, but he saw no Pitcher there; but after the People were secured, they went over the Way, being impatient for Canning's coming, and Adamson went to meet them, and returned waving his Hat, crying out, *We are all right, for Bet says there is a little Hay in the Room.*

WHEN Canning was brought in and set upon the Dresser, the Door of that Room being open, she might have seen the Stairs leading up into it. She was then carried into the Parlour where all the People were, and instantly fixed upon Mary Squires, though she could not see her Face at that Time; and when Squires's Daughter told her Mother she was fixed upon for the Person who robbed Canning, she got up, and coming cross the Room to Canning, said, *Madam, do you say I robbed you? Look on this Face, and if you have seen it before, you must have remembered, that God Almighty never made such another.* On Canning's telling her when it was, she said, *Lord Madam! I was 120 Miles off at that Time.* Upon which he asked her where she then was? She said, at Abbotsbury in Dorsetshire, and could bring a hundred People to prove it, who had known her 30 or 40 Years. After this, Canning was carried into several Rooms, and at last into the Workshop, which she believed was the Room. Being asked what she remembered it by, said, she remembered Hay in the Room, and that was the Hay she lay upon, but there was more of it now. She took up the Jugg, and said, it was that she had her Water in. She was then asked about the Saddles and Drawers, but said she did not remember them, though they were covered with Dust, and seemed to have been there of a long Time. Being asked, why she did not get out at the East Window, answered, she thought it was fast. When they came down into the Parlour, Natus's Wife declared, that she and her Husband had lain there for eleven Weeks together, and that Mary Squires had been there but a very little Time.

HE was asked by the Court, why he did not give this Evidence upon the Trial of *Mary Squires*? He answered, that he was in Court part of the Trial; but being Butler of the Goldsmith's Company, and having the Charge of a great deal of Plate, he was very uneasy, and thinking that *Mary Squires* would be acquitted, he went away, and did not come again; nor did he think, from the Observations he had made, that there could be sufficient Proof to convict her, but when he heard she was convicted, he was extremely concerned and uneasy.

BEING cross-examined, he said, before he left the *Old-Bailey*, *Canning* had gone through her whole Evidence, or very near it, and that she had sworn the Robbery upon the Gipsy, but he thought at the same Time she had given false Evidence, or at least was in a Mistake. But could not be positive, whether *Judith Natus* was in the Room the whole Time he was at *Wells*, neither could he be certain that she said she had lain there ten or eleven Weeks. However, upon this he quite dropt his Opinion of *Canning*, though before he was very much her Friend.

R E M A R K S.

I SHALL only observe, that she swears before the Alderman, that it was a *little square darkish Room*; but it appears, that it was neither *little*, *dark*, nor *square*. On the contrary, the Room was very light, having two Glass Windows in it; and as to its Dimensions, it was near four Times as long as it was wide, the Measure of it being thirty-five Feet three Inches in Length, and nine Feet three Inches in Breadth.

HAGUE and *Aldridge*, who went down with Mr. *Nash*, gave much the same Account, that *Adamson* and *Scarrat* were there at the same Time, and tore down the Window.

MR. WHITE, Marshal's-Man, Servant to my Lord Mayor, said, that he went down to apprehend Mother *Wells* for this Robbery, and declared in what Manner they were all secured; of his going into the Hayloft, where he saw a Chest of Drawers, a Barrel of a Gun, and an old Musket, and upon viewing the Room, thought *Canning* was mistaken, because it did not agree with her Description of it; that then he looked at the North Window, to see if he could observe the Mark of any Body's getting out,
and

and took Notice that the Ground was Clay, and that there lay a Heap of human Dung as high as a Quart Pot, which did not appear to have been trod upon, neither did it seem to him that any Body had got out at that Window. *Adamson* indeed would have persuaded him there were some Marks on the Wall, but he observed it very narrowly, but could see none; neither could he observe any Penthouse or Shed. When *Canning* came in, he proposed she should go into the Parlour and fix upon the Person who had robbed her; that she fixed upon *Mary Squires*, but could not be positive whether *Canning* saw her Face at the Time she fixed upon her; and that *Mary Squires* declared she had never seen her before; that *George Squires* said before *Canning* came, that they were at that very Time in *Dorsetshire*, which was likewise affirmed by the old Woman and her Daughter *Lucy*, all declaring that they were at *Abbatshury* the first of *January*, and the other Daughter said she was at her Uncle's in the Borough that very *Christmas*.

R E M A R K S.

I. WHAT deserves especially Notice in this Evidence is, that there was no Penthouse or Shed below the Window: Yet she swears before the Alderman, that she got out of the Window upon a Shed of Boards or Penthouse, and slid down, and jumped upon the Side of a Bank. Let the Reader compare this Account with that she gave of the Manner of her Escape, at the Trial of *Squires*, and he will easily see the manifest Inconsistency between them.

2. THE Heap of Ordure at the Bottom of the Window, which she must have fell upon had she got out there, and yet was untouched, is another Circumstance that makes against the Credibility of her Story.

FORTUNE NATUS deposed, that he and his Wife lay in that very Room during the Time *Canning* says she was confined there. At his first coming there, he found half a Load of Hay in the Room called the Workshop, his Bed was made of Hay and Straw, and his Bolster a Sack of Wool, that there was no Grate in the Room; but there was in it a Nest of Drawers, two or three Side-Saddles, a Man's-Saddle, a large Drawer with some Pollard, and a Tub hoop'd with Irons; there was likewise a Barrel or Kelderkin, an old Gun and a Gun Barrel; and in the Chimney an old Lanthorn, a Spit, and a Saw with

two Handles ; a Jack-line and Pullies, which came through a Hole at his Beds-head ; no Pictures were there, but an old iron Casement without Glass or Lead ; the Sign of the Crown which stood against the Wall and used to hang at *Wells's* Door. This Room he lodged in twelve Weeks, except three Days, and lay there every Night, excepting one, and that his Wife lay there every Night. The Sign was bought by one *Ezra Whiffen*, and nothing, to his Observation, was taken out of the Room while he lay there ; that he was there all the Month of *January*, New *Christmas*, Old *Christmas*, and till they were all taken up.

JUDITH NATUS gave much the same Account as her Husband had done ; but being asked, if there was a Sign there, she said there was, and it was the Sign of the Fountain ; but afterwards said there were two Signs, and that the other was the Sign of the Crown.

MARY LARNEY, the next Witness, said she kept a Chandler's Shop at *Endfield*, and knew *Fortune Natus* and his Wife very well, and that they dealt with her for Chandlery Goods ; that she had seen them often go in and out at Mother *Wells's* between *Michaelmas* and *Christmas* 1752, and they told her that they lodged there ; and that the first Time she saw *Mary Squires* there was on *Wednesday* the 24th of *January*, and that upon the *Thursday* after that *Wednesday* they were all taken up. The first Time she saw *Lucy Squires*, she sold her a small Loaf of Bread, Cheese and small Beer, the very Day that *Mary Squires* came to *Wells's* House, and that *Lucy* wanted to borrow a Pitcher of her, and that she never saw any Gipsy at *Wells's* House before, and would not put the Money she had taken of the old Woman into her Pocket before she put it into a Pail of Water.

SARAH HOWEL, Mrs. *Wells's* Daughter, was the next Witness, who deposed, that she was there every Day during the Month of *January*, but had no Acquaintance with *Mary Squires*, her Son or Daughter, who came there upon *Wednesday*, and were all taken up the *Thursday* following. The Pitcher being produced, she swore it was the very same that was used in the Family, and that *Fortune Natus* and his Wife were there in that Time, and lay in the Workshop above two Months. There was a considerable Quantity of Hay in the Room, which was to feed her Mother's

Mother's Horse, and some Pollard for the Sow; but could not swear she lay in the House during the whole Month of *January*. *Virtue Hall*, she said, went as often into the Hayloft as she did. That on the 8th of *January* three Men lopped the Trees that were over against the Window, and that *Virtue Hall* and herself were at the Window at that Time; that she opened the Casement herself, and that it opened very easily.

ON her Cross-examination she was asked the Reason of her being at her Mother's? She said she had been a Servant and was out of Place, and had been at her Mother's a Year and a half. That when *Canning* came into the Parlour she pointed to *Squires*, as the Person who had robbed her; this, she believes, was before she saw her Face; that *Mary Squires* said, *For God's sake do not swear my Life away; look in my Face, and be sure of what you say.* She said, *Mary Squires* sat with a Pipe in her Mouth and almost double, with her Head leaning upon her Arm, that *Canning* saw *Wells* before she saw *Squires*, and did not charge her; and that she was not at the Trial of *Squires*, because she was not subpena'd to attend.

THE next Witnesses called were *Larney, Knight*, and *Allen*, who gave an Account of their lopping the Trees opposite the Window of the Room, where *Canning* said she was confined, and talking with *Sarah Howel* and *Virtue Hall* at the Time they were looking out of the Hayloft; this was on the 8th of *January*.

JOHN CARTER, who keeps a publick House near *Wells's*, deposed, that he saw them lopping the Trees, and that they flung Dirt at *Hall* and *Howel*, who stood at the Window of that Room, and that *Fortune Natus* and his Wife lodged at *Wells's*; and that he saw *Mary Squires* there only the Morning she was taken up, but had seen her Son a Week before that Time.

EZRA WHIFFEN, who keeps the *White-Hart* and *Crown* at *Endfield-Wash*, deposed, that he bought that Sign of the Crown which was in Mother *Wells's* Hayloft, and afterwards, the 18th of *January* he bought the old Hooks of Mother *Wells*, and went into the Hayloft to look for them, and saw *Judith Natus* in Bed there. The Irons were in a Piece of Wood, which his Son carried home on his Shoulders, knocked out the Hooks, and brought it back again.

JOHN

JOHN WHIFFEN, the Son, confirmed his Fether's Evidence.

ELIZABETH LONG, the next Witness, deposed, she was the Daughter of Mother *Wells*, and lived but three Houses from her. She believed she was there every Day in *January*, that her Sister and *Virtue Hall* lived there; and that *Fortune Natus* lodged there at the same Time; and having frequent Occasion to go into the Workshop, she often saw *Judith Natus* and her Husband in Bed. She described the Chimney to be at the Feet of *Natus's* Bed, but never remembered a Grate there, but a great deal of Hay was in the Room for the Use of her Mother's Horse, as likewise Pollard and Bran for the Sow and Pigs, and in the Month of *January* she took some Pollard for that Purpose, and is sure Nobody lodged in that Room all that Time except *Natus* and his Wife. The Pitcher produced in Court, she said, was her Mother's, but the Bed-gown she had never seen before. The first Time she saw *Mary Squires* there was the 24th of *January*, when her Son and two Daughters came there, and were all taken up the first of *February*.

JOHN HOWEL, Mother *Wells's* Son, who lived at *Endfield-Wash*, deposed, that he was in the Workshop the 19th, 20th, and 21st of *January*, being sent there by his Mother to fetch Pollard to feed the Sow and Pigs, and that *Fortune Natus* and his Wife were the only People in the Room; and that he attended the Trial of *Squires*, but the Mob would not let him come in, and he was forced to go away.

MRS. MEALE, a Midwife, deposed, that she brought *Elizabeth Canning* into the World; that she went there the 2d or 3d of *February*, and saw the Girl lying in Bed, in all Appearance, in a very weak Condition. At her coming in, *Canning's* Mother asked her if she had heard of the Girl's Misfortune? saying, her Child came home as naked as ever she was born into the World. What! said Mrs. *Meale*, without a Shift on? No, said her Mother, she had her Shift on. Upon which, turning to the Girl, she asked her how it came about? and she related it to her. Upon hearing which she expressed a very great Concern, fearing she had been debauched; and *Canning* herself could not tell what had been done to her, being insensible in her Fits. She then desired to see the Shift the Girl came home in,

which her Mother produced. Having examined it, she asked if it had been washed since her Daughter came home? Her Mother said, no. Then said she to her Mother, it was uncommonly clean to be worn so long. She then looked very narrowly upon it, and told her, her Daughter had not been debauched, and her Mother thank'd God for it. She went a second Time to see her, and on examining the Shift again, told her Mother, it could not have been worn above a Week; and then she saw three Spots of Excrement upon it. Upon which the Mother was extremely angry, and said, *Do you come here to set her Friends against her?* She was then asked, what she knew of the Girl's Character, and she gave her a very good one.

R E M A R K S.

1. IT is plain that this Witness had no Prejudice against either Mother or Daughter, and must be allowed a good Judge of the Things she speaks to, and therefore her Testimony must be unexceptionable. If then, according to her Judgment *Canning* had not wore her Shift above a Week, how will her Advocates account for its being so clean, after she had lain a Month in it, without her Stays, in a Hayloft, among Dirt and Rubbish?

2. IF this Woman found some Stains of Excrement upon her Shift, will her Friends still believe she had no Stool for a Month?

THE next Witness called was Mr. *Brogden*, Clerk to Mr. *Fielding*, who came to prove the Information of *Canning*, by which it appears, that she swore, that the Pitcher of Water was consumed upon the *Friday* before she made her Escape on the *Monday*.

MR. Deputy *Mollineux* depofed, that he happened to be with the late Lord Mayor (after *Mary Squires* was committed) when *Canning* and *Virtue Hall* were brought there in order to be examined; and after my Lord Mayor had examined *Virtue Hall*, her Answer was, she had nothing to say at that Time. The Pitcher and Bed-gown were produced, and *Canning* taking up the Gown to carry it away, as he thought, my Lord Mayor said, No, you must not take it away; upon which she said, *It is my Mother's*, which surpris'd him a great deal, because at the Trial of *Squires*, she said she took it out of the Grate in the Room where she was confined.

MR.

MR. REED, the next Witness, who was present at the same Time, confirmed Mr. *Molineux's* Evidence and heard her say, it was her Mother's Bed-gown.

The Council for the Crown having gone through their Evidence, rested it here.

Then the Witnesses for the Prisoner were called.

EDWARD LYON, of *Aldermanbury*, deposed, that *Elizabeth Canning* lived with him as his Servant, till she was missing the first of *January*, 1753; that he had known her sixteen Years, and gave her a very good Character. He had that Day given her Leave to go and see her Uncle, but saw her no more till the 31st of the same Month. He was with her before Alderman *Chitney*, but being somewhat deafish, could not take upon him to relate all that passed; that a Warrant was granted, and he, with several others, went down to *Wells's* House, and had the People there secured. When *Canning* was brought there, and set upon the Dresser, he bid her be very careful to charge Nobody but who she was sure was guilty; she said, she would be careful. The first Person she saw of those that were taken up was Mother *Wells*; but said, she had done nothing to her, but as soon as she saw *Mary Squires*, said, *That is the Woman that cut my Stays off.*

HE was then asked, if he believed that she saw *Squires's* Face before she challenged her? he said, Yes, and that *George Squires*, when he had put on his great Coat, was very much like one of the Men that robbed her in *Moorfields*. He added, that Mr. *Nash*, when he came home, seemed well satisfied with what was then done, at least, had little or no Room to think the contrary; and Mr. *Nash*, being at his House afterwards, on his going away, said, Mr. Lyon, *I hope God Almighty will destroy the Mould by which he made that Face, and never make another by it;* meaning the Gipsy. A Letter was likewise shewn to Mr. *Nash* on his Examination in Court, which he owned to be his Hand-Writing, dated *Feb. 10.* to the following Purport:

Mr. Lyons,

I AM informed by *Aldridge*, who has been at *Enfield*, that if a Person was appointed there to receive Contributions, some Money would be raised in that Place for the unhapy poor Girl. I wish you Success, and am yours,

Gawen Nash.

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HE added, that as they were coming up, Mr. *Hague* said, he saw no Grate in the Chimney, nor Picture over it. To which he answered, they are moveable Things, and never found any Doubt from *Nash*, *Hague*, or *Aldridge*, till after the Trial of *Squires*; and when he saw Mr. *Nash* in Court at the Trial of *Mary Squires*, he was fully persuaded he would have given his Evidence against the Gipsy.

REMARK.

It is true, a Grate and Picture are moveable Things, and might have been taken away after she saw them: But would there have no Mark or Impression have been left behind? Or could the Chimney in two Days Time, be covered with old Cobwebs and Dust, so as to leave no Traces that such Things had been there?

THOMAS COLLEY, her Uncle, deposed the same as he did at the Trial of the Gipsy.

ELIZABETH CANNING, the Mother, said, her Daughter was 19 Years old, and deposed to the same Effect as she did at the former Trial, with this Addition, that her Daughter said, she had heard the Name of *Wills* or *Wells*, mentioned in the House where she was confined, before any Body mentioned such Words to her.

BEING cross-examined, she confessed she had been to a Conjuror who lives in the *Old Bailey*, to enquire where her Daughter was, &c. that he took her Money, bid her go Home, and she would come again.

MARY NORTHAM deposed, that by Mrs. *Canning's* Order, she carried all the Advertisements that were printed in the *Daily Advertiser*, to the Printer of it.

JAMES LORD, Apprentice to Mrs. *Canning*, deposed to her being missing, the great Concern his Mistress was in on that Account, and that when she came Home, his Mistress was at Prayer for her Return; that when she came to the Door, he did not at first know her, till she spoke, she was in such a deplorable Condition; that his Mistress fell into a Fit upon it; that she had a Bit of a Handkerchief over her Head, and an old Jacket on, and that she was a very sober Girl.

ROBERT SCARRAT deposed, that hearing *Canning* was returned, he went the Night she came Home to her Mother's House, and heard her say she had been on the
Hert-

Hertfordshire Road, about 8 or 10 Miles from *London*, and he would lay a Guinea to a Farthing she had been at the House of Mother *Wells*; upon which the Girl said, she heard the Name of *Wills* or *Wells* mentioned while she was in Confinement, (which was in a longish darkish Room) and saw a Coachman whom she knew, go by, through a Crack of the Boards in the Window. Being asked, if he had known *Canning* before, said, he never saw her, to his Knowledge, before that Night. Said, he had been at Mother *Wells's* House sometimes when he lived a Servant with Mr. *Snee* at *Edmonton*.

MARY MYERS deposed, she had known the Mother and Daughter for many Years. That the Daughter was a very sober Girl, and always behaved well. Being sent for by the Mother to see the Girl at her Return, she found her in a very bad Condition, her Face and Arms being black, which she thought was occasioned by the cold Weather. The Girl spoke so low, that she was forced to kneel down to hear what she said, and then she told her how she had been robbed, and confined in a Room, where there was Hay, a Pitcher with about a Gallon of Water, about the Value of a Quartern Loaf, and a Fire-Place; that she got out by pulling two Boards from a Window, tore her Ear in getting out, and dropped down; and that she saw her very bloody, which appeared fresh, and had dropped on her Shoulder.

JOHN WINTLEBURY deposed, he had known the Girl 14 or 15 Years, that she had lived with him about 18 Months, and had behaved exceeding well. He went to see her the same Night she came Home, and she said to him, O Lord! Sir, you don't know what I have gone thro'; and she seemed in a very weak and bad Condition, and said she had been confined in a House on the *Hertford* Road, and had heard the Name of *Wills* or *Wells* mentioned in the House. She told him of a broken Pitcher that held about a Gallon of Water, which he found in the Room on his going into it; and believes that *Canning* saw Part of *Squires's* Face before she pitched upon her.

MARY WOODWARD being sent for by Mrs. *Canning* the Night her Daughter came Home, found her in a very bad Condition. The first Words the Girl said to her were, Mrs. *Woodward*, I am almost starved to Death, having been confined in a House on the *Hertford* Road. When she

she was carried into that House, she said, three Women took hold of her, and the old Woman asked her if she would go their Way, and on her answering, no, took a Knife, and ripped the Lacing off her Stays, then laid hold of her Petticoat, and looking at it, struck her a Slap on the Face, and said, *D---n you, you Bitch, I'll do for you*, and immediately turned her up, into the Place where she was confined, and threatened with Oaths to cut her Throat if she made any Noise; adding, that the old Woman was a tall, black, swarthy Woman.

JOSEPH ADAMSON deposed he had known *Canning* ever since she was able to go alone. He did not see her after she came home, till the Day they went down to *Enfield-wash*; when Mr. *Wintlebury* and he, being on Horse-back, got down before the Coach, and having secured the People, rode back to tell them in the Coach not to stop at a Place where they had agreed to call, he did not then tell *Canning* that there was Hay in the Room; but after he had spoke to the Coachman to make haste, he asked *Canning* what Sort of a Place it was she was confined in? She answered, an odd, or a wild Sort of a Place, that there was some Hay, and something else which she could not remember; and that then he rode on.

MR. BACKLER, an Apothecary in *Aldermanbury*, deposed, that being sent for, he went to see the Girl on the 30th of *January*, and found her so extremely low that he could scarce hear her speak, with cold clammy Sweats, complaining she was very faint and weak, and of Pains in her Bowels, and of having been costive the whole Time of her Confinement. Upon which he ordered her a purging Medicine, but her Stomach was too weak for it, and could not bear it. Then he ordered her a Clyster that Evening, and *Feb. 3d*, another, which had some little Effect; he ordered her another on the 5th, which had no Effect; and perceiving she was in great Danger, Dr. *Eaton* was sent for on the 6th, who prescribed for her for 14 Days, Diureticks, and gentle Cathartick Medicines, and in about a Month she was tolerably well. When at the Worst, her Face was remarkable, her Colour quite gone, her Arms livid and spotted. When he heard she was gone to *Enfield-wash*, when the People were taken up, he thought her not able to perform the Journey, and that it was very improper for her

to undertake it, she being very much emaciated and wasted.

R E M A R K.

HERE in a very large Addition to the Evidence which this Gentleman gave at the Trial of *Squires*; all which, if true, proves no more, than that he believed her to be in a very bad Condition on her Return Home.

Dr. EATON deposed, he saw her *Feb. 6*, in a very bad Condition, that she complained of Pain in her Bowels, and could hardly keep any Thing in her Stomach; she took a little Chicken Broth, and seemed in great Distress.

Being asked, if he saw any Signs of an Impostor upon her, answered, he did not; but found she was coſtive to a very great Degree, and she appeared in great Danger for 7 or 8 Days; but on the 4th of *March*, she was able enough to go abroad in the Neighbourhood. Being asked, if there were any Symptoms of her being lately in a Salivation, answered, *Nothing like it, I'll assure you, but seemed to be almost starved.*

ON his Cross-examination he could not aver, that her being in that low Condition and Loss of Appetite was occasioned by a Fever or other Distemper, or whether it was from being confined from Viſuals. She told him she had been kept on Bread and Water, and he believed her; and added, it was plain, by the Symptoms he observed, she had not eat much. He was then asked, if it was possible for a Person to subsist twenty eight Days on what she mentioned? He answered, No doubt there is a Possibility of it.

ROBERT BEALS, the Turnpike-man, at *Stamford-hill*, deposed, that at the Beginning of *Jan.* as he was standing at the Gate at near eleven at Night, he heard a sobbing and crying on the Road, which came from *Newington way*; at last he saw two Men and a young Person seemingly by her crying; one said, *Come along you Bitch, you are drunk*; the other said, *How drunk the Bitch is!* and made a sort of a Laugh, but she seemed unwilling to go. By his Light he could see them, one got over the Stile, and the other laid hold of one of her Legs, or both, and lifted them over, so that she came down upright; she hung back and fell on her Breech on the Step of the Stile, and set up a fresh Cry bitterly, as though she would go no farther. He went near them, expecting she would speak to him; but there being

being two Men, and he alone, he did not think it safe to interpose; that the one pulled her, and the other jostled her along, and so they took her along towards *Enfield*.

REMARK.

THE Girl must be now in the Height of her Fit, for she did not come to herself till some Hours afterwards; how then must we account for her sobbing and crying as they lugged her along, and crying bitterly at the Stile, and unwilling to get over it, and squatting on the other Side of it; which certainly shewed some Signs of her being sensible of what they were doing to her; yet she swore on *Squires's* Trial, that she was quite unsensible, and knew nothing of all that was done to her from the Time she received the Blow on her Head in *Moorfields*, till within half an Hour of her coming to *Wells's* House.

THOMAS BENNET deposed he lived near the ten-mile Stone, and on *January* 29, 1753, between four and five in the Afternoon, between Mother *Wells's* and his own House, he saw a poor miserable Wretch coming along, without Gown, Stays, Cap, Hat or Apron on, except a dirty Thing like half a Handkerchief over her Head, and a Piece of something that reached down just below her Waist, with her Hands lying together before her; she asked him the Way to *London*.

DAVID DYER deposed, that he lived at *Endfield-wash*; that about a Quarter of a Mile from Mother *Wells's* House towards *London*, about four o'Clock in the Afternoon, three Evenings before Mother *Wells* and her Family were taken up, a poor distressed Creature passed by him, out of the common Field. He said to her, *Sweetheart, do you want a Husband?* But she made no Answer. She had a Thing tied over her Head like a white Handkerchief, walked with her Hands before her very faintly; she was a shortish sort of a Woman, with a shortish Thing about her; he looked at her Face as she passed by, and takes her to be the same Person.

On his Cross-examination, he said she had not an unlikely Face; she looked whitely, and her Face was not black; and her Hands looked as other People's did.

REMARKS.

1. It may be observed, that the two last Witnesses are not positive, that the miserable Wretch they saw on the Road,

Road, was the same as the Prisoner at the Bar, but thinks she must be the same from the Description of her Dress. But who that travels the Road, does not often meet with such poor tattered Objects ?

2. THE last Witness indeed makes himself merry upon the Occasion. For though he saw this miserable Wretch with all the Signs of Poverty and Distress upon her, fainting and hardly able to walk, yet could not forbear passing his Joke and insulting her Misery, by asking her whether she did not want a Husband ; which shewed either the Badness of his Heart or the Weakness of his Head, to make Sport with an Object that should excite the utmost Pity and Compassion.

MARY COBB deposed, that she lived at *Edmonton*, that she met a Person in *Ducks-fields* in a poor distressed Condition, between the six and seven Mile-stones, at the setting in of Day-light, on *January 29*, last. She had a Handkerchief pinned over her Head, which hid Part of her Face ; she had on a black Petticoat and an old Bedgown, with her Arms wrapt in it ; she perceived she had a young Face, and that she walked creepingly along. Being bid to look at *Canning*, and say if she knew her, answered, that she had never seen her Face since that Time, but firmly believed it might be her by the Tip of her Nose, which bears some Resemblance to the Person she met.

R E M A R K.

THIS is certainly a most extraordinary Evidence, and no doubt had great Credit with the Jury. But had she been more explicit, and described the Peculiarity of the Tip of *Canning's* Nose, which distinguished it from all other People's Noses, it might have given more Satisfaction, if it had been only for the Curiosity of it.

WILLIAM HOWARD deposed, that he lived at *Endfield-wash*, right over against Mother *Wells's*, had a small Fortune of his own, and a little Employment under the Government. He said, *Edward Aldridge*, and a Cousin of his of the same Name, who is his Neighbour, came to him about two or three Days after *Squires* and *Wells* were taken up, and brought a printed Case of *Elizabeth Canning* to recommend a Contribution for her, and supposed he came for that Purpose, and did not seem then to have any Dissatisfaction. About six or seven Days after

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he came again, when he asked him what he thought of it? *Aldridge* answered, there was one Thing he was not clear in, namely, the Description she gave of the Room; but said, he thought she had been there, and had been very ill used.

R E M A R K.

WHAT does this Witness prove, more than that Mr. *Aldridge* had changed his Opinion, and that the more nearly he examined into the Nature and Circumstances of the Case, the greater Reason he had to depart from his first Sentiments. Have not many others done the same? Nay, does not this Witness allow, that *Aldridge* himself expressed his Dissatisfaction with her Description of the Room, at the very Time he was soliciting a Subscription for it?

Mrs. *Howard* confirmed her Husband's Testimony, adding, that she believes she saw *Mary Squires*, her Son and two Daughters the Sunday was Se'nnight before they were taken up, which was the 21st of *January*, and that they were standing at *Wells's* Door.

WILLIAM HEADLAND deposed, he was at his Father's at *Endfield* before *January* was twelve Months, and saw *Wells* and *Squires* taken up; that he found a Piece of a Window Lead all bloody on the Ground near the Window where the Girl got out, as she said, after they were taken up, but it is since lost; that on *Tuesday, January 9.* he saw *Mary Squires* under *Lomas Dean's*, at the *Bell* at *Endfield*, telling a young Man his Fortune; that he saw her on the 12th at *Wells's* House, and her two Daughters were both with her, one of them was buckling up her Pumps.

BEING cross-examined, he appeared very ignorant as to reckoning of Time, and could not tell which Month *Christmas* was in, but knew it was in the Winter.

ELIZABETH HEADLAND, the Mother, confirmed her Son's Evidence, as to the bringing her a Piece of Lead that was bloody, after *Squires* was taken up, which he said he found a little Way from the Window where the Girl said she got out.

R E M A R K.

ONE would think, that the Managers of the Girl's Defence were endued with a strong Faith, to believe, that such

such ridiculous Evidence, as here given by the Son and Mother, should produce any other Effect in a Jury than Contempt.

SAMUEL STORY deposed; that he lived at *Waltham-Abbey*, in *Essex*, on his own Fortune, then (looking at *Mary Squires*) said, he had seen her several Times in *White-Webb's Lane*, that the last Time he saw her was on the 23d of *December*, 1752, sitting within the Door of Mother *Wells's* House, and it was a fine frosty Morning; that he took particular Notice of her, and knew she was the same Person he had seen in *White-Webbs-Lane*, where he used to ride two or three Times a Week. He remembered this 23d of *December* by its being a fine frosty Morning when he went out, and the Weather inclining to Rain at his going home, he got a Cold, which was followed by the Rheumatism and St. *Anthony's* Fire; and he was not out of his House for near two Months afterwards, and is certain both as to the old Woman and the Day.

WILLIAM SMITH of *Endfield*, deposed, that on the 14th of *December* 1752, *Mary Squires* (whom he saw in Court) lay in his Cow-house, and for two Nights afterwards; that there were two Men and two Women with her; and that she had been about the Country for some Time.

LAMWORTH DANE deposed, that he lives at *Endfield-wash*, and says he is sure he saw *Mary Squires* last old *Christmas*-day was Twelvemonth. He was filling a Barrow from a Heap of Gravel at the Door, and as he stood resting himself, she went past him.

SAMUEL ARNOT deposed, he lived in *White-Webb's-Lane* on *Endfield-Chace*; that on *Monday* Morning the 9th or 10th of *December*, 1752, before New *Christmas*, *Mary Squires* enquired of him about a little Horse she had lost; that she told him her Name was *Squires*. He saw her the *Sunday* following, when a Man, two Women and two Children were with her; that the Children seemed to be four or five Years old; that he did not see her afterwards till he saw her in *Newgate*, and believes this to be the same Person that lay at Farmer *Smith's*.

R E M A R K.

THIS Witness has given *Squires* a Couple of small Children, which is the first Time we have heard, from

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one Side or the other, that she travelled with any such in her Company; for hitherto we have always found her either alone, or with all or some of her own Children.

SARAH ARNOT, Wife to the last Witness, deposed, that she saw *Mary Squires* about a Week before new *Christmas*, which was the first Time, but afterwards saw her in Farmer *Smith's* Cow-House; that there were several more with her; that she saw her in *Newgate* after her Trial, and believes she is the same Person.

SARAH STARR, a Farmer's Wife, deposed, that she knew *Mary Squires*, and that she came to her House, next Door to Mrs. *Wells's*, on the 18th or 19th of *January* was *Twelvemonth*, but had never seen her before that Time. That she first of all offered to mend her China and Delft Ware; then she desired to buy pickled Pork and brown Bread; that she gave her some Chitterlins that lay on the Table to get rid of her; and believed she saw her in the Whole about three Quarters of an Hour; that she would have told her's and the Servants Fortune, but they were afraid of her. She said she had been before Dukes and other great Persons, and she would hurt Nobody; but that she (*Starr*) was terribly scared, having never seen such a Person before.

DANIEL VASS, of *Endfield*, deposed, that on old *Christmas* Day, *Jan. 5.* he saw her go by his Door, as he was in his own Yard, but Nobody with her (except she had somebody under her Cloak) and saw her afterwards in *Newgate*, and is sure she is the same Person, though not in the same Cloaths: For when he first saw her, she had an old white Beaver Hat, a Brick-coloured Gown, and a red Cloak. The Reason of his remembering the Day was, because his Master did not chuse he should work that Day, because it was old *Christmas*; that he never saw her before or since; that she did not stop at his House above a Minute, and that he knew her again in *Newgate*.

JANE DODWEL, of *Enfield*, Chandler Woman, deposed, that the first Time she saw her, was *December 28.* in new *Christmas* Week; that she came to her Shop, and her Daughter *Mary* had been there several Times before; that when she came in, she was in a Back-house washing her Dishes; that her Reason for remembering the Day was, she had dressed Meat to give away to her Customers. After she was gone, some of her Neighbours came in and asked

asked who she was? That she never saw her afterwards till she went to see her in *Newgate*; said, that *Squires* did not tell her where she lived, and that she had no Company with her at that Time.

R E M A R K.

THIS Witness says, that when *Mary Squires* was gone out of her Shop, several of her Neighbours came in and asked who she was. But what Occasion had they to do that, when, according to some of the Witnesses, she had been publickly seen there and in that Neighbourhood, almost every Day, for a Fortnight or three Weeks before?

TOBIAS KELLEY, of *Enfield*, deposed, he knew *Mary Squires*, and remembered his seeing her something better than three Weeks in *January*, but did not know the Day of the Month, nor was he sure he ever saw her before; that it was near a Month before she was taken up; that she passed by him, and that he never saw her before nor afterwards; and after that, he says, he saw her three or four Times; that she asked him for a Pipe of Tobacco, and would have told him his Fortune, and did tell one *John Rowley* his Fortune, that he had an Enemy, and asked him for three Pence, and he gave her but three half Pence; that he saw Nobody with her at any Time.

R E M A R K.

WHAT a Piece of incoherent, nonsensical Stuff is here! Surely this Witness had a very bad Memory, that he could remember his Lesson no better! Or else the Managers of the Cause gave him very defective Instructions. However, he serves to make up the Number, which indeed seems to be the principal End aimed at in bringing the far greatest Part of the Witnesses that appeared in behalf of the Prisoner; but instead of making a Figure, ought to be placed on the left Hand of one.

JOHN FRAME, of *Enfield*, deposed, that he saw her there the 11th or 12th of *January*, was Twelvemonth; that he was in the Gardens, and she spoke to him through the Pallisadoes, and he gave her a Half-penny, and she told him what was good Fortune. He never saw her before, but several Times since, and when she was in *Newgate*. At *Enfield* she was by herself, and had a reddish Gown on, and a light-coloured Cloak.

JOSEPH

JOSEPH GOLD, of *Enfield*, Labourer, deposed, that he knew *Mary Squires*, and saw her on the 8th and 9th of *January* about a Quarter of a Mile from *Wells's* House; and hearing that Mother *Wells* had Gipseys in her House, he took particular Notice of her; that she saw her eight or nine Days before she was taken up; and before he saw her, *Virtue Hall* told him there were Gipseys in Mother *Wells's* House; he cannot tell what Dress she was in, but Nobody was with her.

MARY GOLD, the last Witness's Wife, deposed, that she saw her on the 11th or 12th of *Jan.* and that she asked if she had any China to mend? And told her she should not live long, which very much surprized her. After that, she saw her in *Newgate*, and is the same Person. She never saw her before that Time, and had the same Dress, a yellow sort of a Gown, as she had on in *Newgate*.

HUMPHREY HOLDING, Gardener, deposed, that he knew *Mary Squires*, and that the first Time he saw her was the 18th of *January* 1753, when she asked him if the Family was at Home? and had no more Conversation with her; but on the *Thursday* following, he saw her as he was pruning Vines for Dr. *Harrington*, when she asked if there was any China to mend? He saw her go to the Door, and heard somebody say, no, but did not see who it was. The next Time he saw her was in the Cart, going to Justice *Tybbmaker's*, when she had on a darkish yellow Gown, and a red Cloak. She did not appear to him to be a very strong Woman, and he has seen her since in *Newgate*.

SARAH VASS, Wife of *Daniel Vass*, of *Enfield*, deposed, that she saw *Squires* there, and that she offered to tell her Fortune, but she refused it. She came into her House the Day before she was taken up as she was drinking Tea, and asked for a Pipe of Tobacco, which she gave her, and then she asked for a Dish of Tea, and she gave her two. She then offered to tell her her Fortune, and their Conversation lasted about a Quarter of an Hour; after that, she saw her in *Newgate*, and she is the same.

R E M A R K.

Does this Witness contradict any Part of the Evidence given against *Canning*, or in Behalf of *Squires*? Not in the least. She saw her the Day before she was taken up; which she might very well do, for *Squires* was then at *Wells's* or in the Neighbourhood.

MR.

Mr. GLADMAN deposed, that he lived about a Quarter of a Mile from Mother *Wells's* House, but never saw *Natus* or his Wife, or *Squires's* Son or Daughters, only Mother *Squires*; that she was dressed in a black Hat, a little red Cloak, and a brick coloured Gown.

R E M A R K.

HAD this Witness said, *when* he saw her there, it would have been more to the Purpose.

ANN JOHNSON deposed, that she had lived at *Endfield* seven and twenty Years, and got her living by Spinning, and was positive that she saw *Mary Squires* at her Door the 18th of *January*. Her Reason for knowing the Time was, that she spun for one Mr. *Smitheram*, and carried home her Work the 18th of *January*; on the said Day *Mary Squires* asked for some China or Delft-ware to mend, and also for some Victuals, but she gave her none; that she was there alone; that she saw her about three Times in the Space of ten or eleven Days. She went likewise to see her in *Newgate* after the Trial, and knew her to be the same Person; that when she saw her she said she had two Cloaks on, and a Gown of a very particular Colour.

THOMAS SMITHERAM was then called for the Prosecution, and deposed, that the Work *Ann Johnson* swore she brought home on the 18th, was not brought till the 23d, which he had set down, and produced the Book wherein it was entered, and in which he set down the going out of the Wool, and the Day it was brought Home spun. This needs no Remark.

GRACE KIRBY deposed, that a little after *Christmas* was Twelvemonth, *Squires* came to the Door. She said she remembered it because she had been but a very little Time in the House.

R E M A R K.

THIS Evidence carries but small Weight, and seems added, more for the Sake of Number than Value.

WISE, the Wife of *John Bassett*, of *Endfield*, Mantua-maker, deposed, that she knew *Mary Squires* very well, and saw her the 21st or 22d of *December*, on a *Monday*, and gave her a Penny to tell her Fortune; she gave her also a Dish of Tea, and never saw her afterwards; that she there told her
the

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the Time she saw her, and that *Squires* said, *You might see me, but that is not the right Time.*

JAMES PRATT, of *Chertson*, two Miles from *Endfield*, deposed, that the first Time he saw *Mary Squires* was at Farmer *Smith's* Cow-house, and she asked him Leave to go in there, which he could not give being only a Servant, and having continued there three Days she left it on a *Sunday*, but he could not tell the Day of the Month; that there were in the Company Men, Women and Children. *Mary Squires* complained she had lost a Horse, and said there was a Clog upon him with her Name on it, and she afterwards charged him with stealing the Horse. He is sure she is the same Woman, for that he saw her in *Newgate*.

R E M A R K S.

1. If there really was a Gang of these Gipseys lodged in this Cow-house at the Time mentioned, which is very possible, they must be a Set different from that of *Squires* and her Family, whom we have all along found either alone, or with some or one of her own Children.

2. It is Pity that this Horse was not found again, were it only to have seen *Squires's* Name upon the Clog.

LYDIA FAROWAY, Servant to Mr. *Howard* of *Enfield-wash* depos'd, that she saw *Mary Squires* once or twice, but does not take upon her to say what Day of the Month it was, and that she saw her once at her Mistress's Gate.

R E M A R K.

THIS is but a weak Evidence, as was that of her Mistress, who *believed* she saw her the 21st of *January*; however, she serves to increase the Number.

MARGARET RICHARDSON deposed, she lived there last *January* was Twelve-month, and saw *Mary Squires* at *Enfield*; and, looking at her, said, she was sure she is the same Person, for she saw her above a Quarter of an Hour. She likewise saw her on old *Christmas* Day, and a Dog belonging to the Family, which was very fierce, would have tore *Squires*, if her Husband had not come by and prevented it.

GEORGE CLEMENTS, Servant to Mr. *Starr*, lived near Mrs. *Wells's* House a Year and a Quarter, and remembered to have seen *Mary Squires* about a Fortnight before they were taken up; that she wanted to tell her
Mistress

Mistress her Fortune, and that her Mistress gave her some Hog's-pudding, and he saw her at *Endfield* two or three Times afterwards.

HANNAH FENCHAN deposed, that her Husband was a Gardener, that she saw her in *January* 1753, in a Place called *Trott's Walk*, and that she saw her passing and repassing, and afterwards in *Newgate*, and she is sure she is the very same Person.

ELIZABETH SHERRARD, of *Ponder's End*, deposed, that she saw *Mary Squires* on *Wednesday, Thursday, Friday* and *Saturday* before *Christmas*; that *Mother Wells* told her she had got a new Lodger, and asked her to come to her House; but she could not tell whether it was new *Christmas Day*. Upon farther Recollection, she said, it was on a *Monday* or *Tuesday*. *Mrs. Wells*, she said, was very civil to her, and gave her a *Christmas-box*, which was a Penny.

R E M A R K.

WHAT Absurdities are here! Was ever such Evidence offered to a Court before? Had *Canning's* Managers so little Sense as to believe, that such Stuff would pass with a Jury? If they did not believe it, (as one would hardly think it possible they should) what End could they propose by offering it, unless they designed it as an Affront to the Magistrates and Judges that sat upon her Trial?

JOHN WARD deposed, that he had known *Wells* for some Years, and having seen her Name in the News Papers, before the Trial of *Mary Squires*, he went to see her in *Bridewell*; when, after some Conversation he said to her, *How could you keep the Girl a Fortnight?* she answered, she was there eight and twenty Days; and when he asked in what Room, she said, *you know the Room well enough*. *Richard Jones* went along with *Ward*, and heard this Conversation.

NATHANIEL CRAMPHORN deposed, that he lived at *Waltham Cross* seven Years ago, and knew *Judith Natus*; that upon the 21st of *April* last she came to his House, and he asked her, if she knew *Canning* was at *Mother Wells's*, how she could go against her? She answered, *Indeed, Mr. Cramphorn, I cannot say but she really was there when we were there*.

ELIZABETH CRAMPHORN deposed, that *Judith Natus*
H came

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came to their House upon the 21st of *April* last, and upon Mr. *Cramphorn's* asking her the Question, she said, *Indeed she was there when I lodged there.*

WILLIAM JACKSON deposed, that he laid a Wager of a Shilling that he was not at Mother *Wells's* all the Time; upon which a Person made Answer, *he was out one Night, and Fortune* owned it to be Fact.

R E M A R K.

THIS Witness proves no more than what *Natus* himself acknowledged on his Examination.

DANIEL STEVENS deposed, that he knew *Wells*, and that he saw *Squires* in *New Prison*; that she then owned she had been at Mother *Wells's* House, but that she never cut off the Girl's Stays or robbed her. He likewise deposed that she said *Canning* was at Mother *Wells's* about a Fort-night, and that she was there likewise.

R E M A R K.

WHO ever deny'd, that *Squires* was at Mother *Wells's* House? And is it not natural to suppose that even Self-preservation would teach her to deny the Felony, in case she had been really guilty of it? As to the latter Part of the Evidence, it hangs so badly together, and so ill agrees with the first, that one knows not what to make of it.

JOHN HAINES deposed, that he lived at *Ware*, and had known *Fortune Natus* six or seven Years; and in general said he had a bad Character, and is not to be believed upon his Oath.

DAVID CHAPMAN deposed, that he had lived twenty Years at *Ware*; that *Fortune Natus* and his Wife had both very bad Characters, and he did not think that either of them ought to be believed upon Oath.

THOMAS GREEN deposed, that he had lived thirty Years at *Ware*, and he believes *Fortune Natus* and his Wife would say any Thing for Gain.

R E M A R K.

THE Evidence of *Natus* and his Wife being strong in Point, must necessarily, if credited by the Jury, overthrow the whole Scheme of *Canning*, as they swore they lay in the Room where she pretended to be confined, during the whole Month of *January* and long before; her Managers therefore

therefore rightly judged it of the utmost Moment to invalidate their Testimony, by convincing the Jury, from the Badness of the Characters of these Witnesses, that they deserved no Credit even upon their Oaths. But if *Natus* and his Wife are such profligate Wretches, that neither their Words nor their Oaths ought to be credited, how came these very cunning Managers to put a Saying, pretended to be dropt by *Judith Natus* in Conversation, into the Mouths of two of their Witnesses, tending to persuade a Belief of *Canning's* Confinement in that Room? If no Regard is to be paid to the Evidence when given against *Canning*, why must she be believed when brought to speak for her? If her Character was of any Weight in either Case, surely it was in both alike, and as much Stress ought to be laid upon it in the one as in the other.

WILLIAM METCALF, of *Enfield*, Glasier, Painter, and Plumber, deposed that he carried *Whiffen's* Sign home, on the 8th of *January* Old Stile, when *Whiffen* told him he had bespoke some Sign Irons of a Blacksmith; that he saw him about ten Days or a Fortnight after and they were not made; that he then directed him to Mother *Wells's* for the Irons which formerly belonged to the Sign; and he produced his Book to what he had done to the Sign.

R E M A R K.

I don't see how this Evidence clashes with, or any way contradicts that given by *Whiffen* and his Son; so far from it, that, in my Apprehension, it strengthens and corroborates every Part of it. *Whiffen* swears he bought the Sign that was in Mother *Wells's* Hayloft, and *Metcalf* declares upon Oath that he carried it home on the 8th of *January*, when *Whiffen* told him he had bespoke some Sign Irons of a Blacksmith, which not being made, about ten Days after he directed *Metcalf* to those in *Wells's* Hayloft, and *Whiffen's* Son brings them away, which he bought of her *Jan.* 18. Nothing can be more consistent than the Evidence of *Whiffen* and *Metcalf*, and instead of yielding any Help to a lame Cause, weakens the Support on which it had long leaned.

MR. MARSHAL deposed, that he had known *Elizabeth Canning* ever since she could go alone, having lived so long in the Neighbourhood, and said she always bore a good Character.

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THE Council for the Prosecution perceiving they were going to call Witnesses to establish the Girl's Character, which would unnecessarily take up much of the Court's Time, acquainted the Jury from the Prosecutor, that he had nothing against her exclusive of the Fact for which she was tried.

ABOUT Seven o'Clock in the Evening the Examination of the Witnesses was finished; when Mr. *Davy*, of Council for the Prosecution, spoke in Reply, for upwards of two Hours, with great Eloquence and Force of Reason, directing himself rather to the Judgment than the Passions of the Jury; which as we can't pretend to give at large, we hope a Specimen of it will afford the Reader some Satisfaction.

‘ FEW Persons, *said he*, endeavour to seek after Truth beyond the Belief they are already possessed of. Men who can blindly engage themselves in any particular Opinion, will as stubbornly maintain it. Passion usurps the Place of Judgment, and Reflection is drowned in Prejudice. Pride will not suffer some to acknowledge themselves capable of being mistaken, while Indolence induces others to repose an implicit Confidence in Reports, without enquiring whether they have any rational Foundation; they acquiesce, and propagate the Tales merely on the Reputation of the Relator. Errors thus rivetted on weak Minds, resist Demonstration as well as Argument; stedfastly resolved against Conviction, they not only reject the Means that are offered for that Purpose, but are even angry at the Attempt, as a Reproach upon their Understanding, and if in Opposition to Truth, Interest should be thrown into the Scale with Falshood, no wonder if the latter animates them to become the Tools of Resentment, or Instruments of Abuse, in any Affair that can be made to square with their Sentiments and Inclinations: But be it remembered, that Infallibility is not the Attribute of Human Nature; the Best and Wisest may err, and have been deceived; nay, the Former, from the native Goodness of their Heart, are most liable to Imposition. Strangers to Fraud, with Difficulty entertain a Jealousy of it in others; and a well painted Scene of distressed Innocence, never fails of having its proper Weight with a compassionate Disposition. Nevertheless it is well known, that the worthiest Cause may
‘ be

‘ be more injured than assisted by an indiscreet Zeal, and
 ‘ that intemperate Heats, rather give Room for Suspicion,
 ‘ than furnish Means for Conviction.’

‘ THESE Reflections, tho’ equally applicable to both,
 ‘ are not intended to impeach either the Credit or Conduct
 ‘ of any one particular Party.’

MR. RECORDER then summ’d up the Evidence on both Sides, which tho’ long, perplexed, and often contradictory, he deliver’d with great Judgment and Perspicuity, which took him up more than two Hours.

THEN the Jury retired to consider on their Verdict, and after about two Hours Consultation, they came into Court, and by their Foreman declared the Prisoner *guilty of Perjury*, but not *wilful and corrupt*. Upon which the Recorder told them, that he could not accept their Verdict, because it was *partial*, and they must either find her guilty of the whole Indictment, or acquit her. Upon which they went out a Second Time, and on their Return, brought her in guilty of the Indictment; but recommended her to Mercy. The Verdict being given, the Court order’d her into the Custody of the Keeper of *Newgate*.

IT may be Matter of Wonder to some People, what the Jury could stumble at, that should keep them so long in Suspence before they return’d their Verdict. But their Wonder will cease when they are told, (as any of that Jury will inform them) that they had two weak Brethren among them, who were so ignorant and obstinate, that they would not be convinc’d by Reason or Argument, tho’ they had nothing to offer in Contradiction, but their own Belief and Persuasion. At last the other Ten, in Condescension to their Weakness, agreed to bring in that *partial Verdict* they did at the first. But this being refus’d by the Court, these two Men persisted in denying to concur with their Fellows in any other Verdict, unless they would agree to recommend the Convict to Mercy. This likewise, to humour them, they submitted to. Yet even this, these two scrupulous Gentlemen repented of afterwards, and recanted in open Court.

AFTER the Verdict was brought in, the Council for the Defendant moved in Arrest of Judgment, and the Court appointed a Hearing thereupon the first Day of the next Sessions in the *Old Bailey*, which would begin the 30th of *May*; to which Time also the Court deferr’d passing Sentence.

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tence, that in the mean while the Judges might have Leisure to consult and advise with one another on the Judgment to be pronounced, and the Punishment proper to be inflicted on the Convict.

SESSIONS being come, the first Business the Court went upon was the Affair of *Canning*, who being called to the Bar to receive Sentence, pursuant to an Adjournment from the 13th of *May*, her Council argued strenuously for an Arrest of Judgment, or a New Trial, and were as learnedly answered by the Council for the Prosecution. When they had ended their Pleadings, the Court proceeded to Judgment.

THE Court on this Occasion were divided in their Opinions; some declared that no Punishment less than Transportation was adequate to the Heinousness of the Crime; others thought this would exceed the Bounds of Justice, and border too much upon Cruelty, and therefore would have it mitigated to Imprisonment for Six Months: But a Majority appearing in Favour of the first Opinion, Sentence was accordingly pronounced, that *Elizabeth Canning* should be imprisoned for one Month, and at the Expiration thereof, be transported to some of his Majesty's Plantations for seven Years.

How differently the Court stood affected towards the Convict, will appear from the following List and Division.

For TRANSPORTATION.

JUDGES.

Lord Chief Justice Willes.
Mr. Justice Clive.
Mr. Justice Dennyson.
Mr. Baron Legge.
Mr. Baron Smyth.
The Lord Mayor.
The Recorder.
Alderman Janssen,
Alderman Dickinson,

For MITIGATION.

ALDERMEN.

Sir John Barnard,
Alderman Benn,
—— Scott,
—— Ladbroke,
—— Alsop,
—— Alexander,
—— Cockayne,
—— Glynn.

F I N I S.



The Truth's found out at last:

Or, a Full and Particular

A C C O U N T

Of a most wonderful and surprising Discovery and Confession, made on *Sunday* last by *Mary Squires* the Gipsej, to a reverend Clergyman in *Newgate*.



W O N D E R F U L are the Instances by which Providence has in all Ages thought fit to bring to Light the most secret Scenes of Iniquity, as has been fully illustrated by the ingenious and learned Author of that excellent Book entitled, *God's Revenge against Murder*, and which, at the Expence of much Study and Labour, has lately been revised and re-published by a worthy Magistrate, to the no small Edification of his Majesty's Subjects, and the Terror of Evil Doers.—— But of all the miraculous Interpositions of Providence in bringing Guilt to Light, none ever equalled what is contained in the following authentic Relation.—— In these Days of Atheism and Infidelity there may be some who arrogantly presuming on the Power of human Wisdom and Intelligence will be apt to doubt the Credibility of our Narrative; but such profane Persons would do well to consider how little Dependance is to be had on mere human Knowledge and Wisdom, when the very Instance we are about to relate proves how little these avail in the Discovery of Truth.—— Has the Solemnity of a Court of Justice, or the Penetration of a Grand Jury been able to develope this mysterious Affair! Has the acute Labours of two

two potent Pens been able to give the Public the least Satisfaction therein? And what is still more, Has not even a L—d M—r been puzzled in the Pursuit, and the Microscope of the Law been found ineffectual for the Discovery! — What then but a Miracle could be equal to it?

The Reader will perceive that the Affair here hinted at, is concerning the much talk'd of Mrs. Mary Squires and Miss Betty Canning, an Affair which it must be allow'd has met with an Attention equal to its Importance, since scarcely a Breath of Politics has been known to evaporate in a Coffee-house, or Scandal at a Tea-Table, since it first happened; nay, so totally has it absorb'd all other Considerations, that even the Disputes of contending Monarchs have been unattended to, and the more important Affairs of our theatrical States pass'd unnoticed by the Regulators of George's and the Bedford, — but not to detain the Reader any longer, we shall now relate in the most faithful manner what happened on this miraculous Occasion.

A Reverend Divine of the Church of Rome, who constantly visits the Cells in Newgate after every Sessions, in order to transform protestant Sinners into romish Saints, and secure them (however unlucky they may have been in this World) by a *Noli Prosequi* in the next; this reverend Gentleman, I say, during the Exercise of his ghostly Function in this Place, became acquainted with Mrs. Squires, and by offering to register her Soul in the Catholic Insurance Office had well nigh perverted her from her Norwood Orthodoxy; and in order to compleat which he frequently visited her in her Room: But on Sunday last, the 20th Instant, between the Hours of seven and eight o'Clock in the Evening, as he was entering her Apartment he was astonish'd to behold something vanish up the Chimney in the Shape of a Flame of Fire, leaving behind it a bluish Smoke of a most sulphureous Odour; he at first stood astounded, but recovering and sprinkling himself with some holy Water, he address himself to Mrs. Squires, telling her, it was no wonder he was too cunning for the Powers of this World who held such Intimacy with those of another, but

that

that the diabolical Company he perceived she kept, was now a full Satisfaction to him of her being guilty of the Crime laid to her Charge; and then threatened to discover her infernal Intercourse if she did not make a full Confession. At length, being overcome by this pious Divine's Exhortations and Threats, she at last made the following most surprising Declaration — That tho' she had hitherto pass'd only for a *Gipsy* and *Fortune-teller*, she was in reality a WITCH, and that the Apparition which he had seen vanish up the Chimney was a young *Incubus* to which she had just been giving Suck; and, to evince the Truth of this, produc'd the unnatural Teat from which he had just escaped. — On farther Examination she confess'd, that by the Power of Witchcraft she could be present at *two different Parts of the Kingdom* (however distant) *at the same Instant of Time*, and this she apprehended was what had misled the Public, and puzzled the *two able Casuists* who she was informed had published some elaborate Pieces on this Occasion. The holy Father expressed some Scruples of Faith at this extraordinary Power she mentioned, but they were at once removed by her observing, — That why should it seem more incredible that she should be at two Places *at once*; than that she should be *no where at all*; which must be the Case if what both those able Casuists have published was *true*.

When the reverend Gentleman would have pressed her to acknowledge the Innocence of *Canning*, he could get nothing more from her than, "That she did not know but the Girl might be brought to *Mother Wells's* on their usual Carriage, a BROOMSTICK, and convey'd back on the *same Vehicle*;" but would by no means be prevailed on to own any thing that pass'd in the intermediate time. — However, as it is expected that an *able Magistrate* will have the *Re-examination* of her before a Number of the PRINCIPAL NOBILITY and PERSONS OF DISTINCTION, it is not doubted but farther Discoveries will be made, which will *no less surprize* the Reader than what is here related, and will furnish Matter for a *Novel*, full as entertaining as *AMELIA* itself.